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HISTORIC DUTCH INDIES CAMPAIGN RECOUNTED; FIERCE BANTAM LANDING OPERATION STAGED

Commander Imamura Jumps Into Sea Together With Other Officers To Direct Fighting

ENEMY RESISTANCE CRUSHED

A staff officer who shared the hardships of the Japanese officers and men throughout that epochal drive in Java, returned to Tokyo recently and in a press interview at the War Ministry on April 28, gave the following graphic description of the special character of the Netherlands East Indies campaign, the breath-taking battle off Bantam Bay, the hazardous strategy in capturing the enemy air bases, the trying ordeals of the soldiers after landing, and the conditions surrounding the unconditional surrender of the combined Allied forces:

Having fortunately been allowed to take part as a staff officer dispatched by the Imperial Headquarters to take part in the terrific battle of Singapore which completely changed the history of Greater East Asia, I inspected the condition in the city immediately after the unconditional surrender proposed by Lieutenant-General Arthur E. Percival, on February 18, and returned on the same day to Tengah airdrome.

Great Distance Involved

On the following morning, I proceeded toward a spot where the transports which were to carry the Japanese troops to Java were standing by and from then on, for the duration of the Java campaign, I shared the activities of the besieging army.

In studying the southern circumstances and in reviewing the operations in these regions, it is necessary first of all to pay heed to the distance involved. Most of the maps found in the homes of the average Japanese and in offices in general are made out in such a manner as to show the two poles on a relatively large scale and the areas around the Equator greatly compressed.

Before reaching a conclusion regarding the South, therefore, it is essential above all to have in one's mind a correct knowledge of the comprehensiveness of the area and the actual distance involved.

Considering matters on the basis of the cruising radius of present-day aircraft and ships, the Netherlands East Indies campaign is tantamount to one mammoth long-range, transoceanic operation.

Unworthy as I was, I was allowed to take part in the work of preparing the operations in the southern area. I studied the subject on paper several times. Each time I came to Java, however, I struck a snag. There is a saying that distance is an arm. It is axiomatic in military science. I was troubled by the question of distance up to the last.

Aim of Japan's Operations

There is a school of thought which holds that "the aim of the operations in the southern area is to acquire materials. The disposal of the Netherlands East Indies is nothing more than an operation to come into possession of oil. Is it not true that Japan is out to dispose of the problem in the southern area because it wants oil?"

We must be on guard against allowing our minds to be completely occupied with phenomena which are visible to the eye to the exclusion of the political structure of the country with the result that we may become worshippers of materialism, which is the way of the devil. Our country never would allow itself to be influenced into action by such vile thoughts. If the objective of Japan in the southern area were oil, it would have been enough if it had possessed itself of Palembang. There would have been no reason at all for Japan to embark upon dangerous operations like those against Java.

Must Liberate People

One of the first conditions of the construction of the right sort of Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere is the liberation of the 50,000,000 native inhabitants of Java from the shackles of the Dutch whose ruthless exploitation of them for 340 years has reduced them to a state of helplessness. This consideration will explain why Java was made the principal objective of the operations against the Dutch East Indies.

The East Indies is divided into Java and the outlying territories. In point of development these two sections of the East Indies are utterly different.

Japan has been in a state of development since 2,000 years ago, and the material civilization possessed by it today is comparable with the material civilization of Europe.

The East Indies has a population of 70,000,000, the greater part of which—50,000,000 to be exact—is concentrated on Java, which occupies only slightly more than 10 per cent of the area of the East Indies.

Mostly Jungle Land

The outlying territories are for the most part jungle land, with areas containing resources located here and there in the coastal regions.

The difficulty of conducting successful operations against Java arose from the difference in the state of development of the regions round the island. That is to say, there were numerous airfields round Java, the chief objective of the operations against the East Indies. Dubious would be the value of any of these fields, captured by the Imperial Forces by tremendous efforts, as bases from which to operate against the airfields on Java.

Moreover, there were no repair shops or fuel depots on the fields in Java. The quality of these fields was exceedingly poor. No wonder that they had been landing fields for the provincial air corps before they were converted for use for defense purposes.

Incidentally, landing operations are conducted as a matter of principle only when the naval forces and the air strength of the enemy have been crushed. Then troops are landed from a group of vessels under escort of naval vessels which are on the look-out for enemy submarines.

Many Useful Airfields

The airfields in the outlying territories of the East Indies which could be used by us as bases for operations to crush the air strength of the enemy on Java were Bandjermasin on the southeastern extremity of Borneo, Macassar and Kendari on Celebes, Palembang on Sumatra, and Tandjoenkarang to the south. All these fields were remote from the center of Java and were, moreover, very poor.

As bad as these airfields were, it was absolutely necessary for us to capture them if we were to carry out a successful campaign against Java. There were, however, many difficult conditions for us to fulfil before we could take possession of these fields and it would be necessary to improve and expand the fields once they were in our hands.

Moreover, fuel and ammunition, needed for our air force, must be brought to the fields through seas fraught with dangers.

Immediately after the commencement of operations, a corps landed at Davao, an important point at the southern tip of Mindanao in the Philippine Islands. This corps, made up of natives of Kyushu, was known as the Sakaguchi corps.

Jolo Is Captured

In a second jump, so to speak, it promptly captured Jolo Island to the west.

Within a space of 10 days this corps made a third jump and landed in the jungle land on Tarakan Island—the island of oil. The enemy airfield on this island was speedily brought under the control of this corps. There were several thousand troops in the neighborhood of this field. All of them were forced to surrender.

We had apprehensions that the strength of this valiant corps had by this time spent itself so we were pleasantly surprised to learn that in a fourth jump it had landed at Palembang, a vital point in the eastern part of Borneo.

This corps, made up of supermen, reduced enemy airfields like a steam roller.

The real objective of its operations was Bandjermasin on Borneo. Now the port of Bandjermasin is extremely shallow as far as the waters off Surabaya on Java, and it is dangerous for large-size merchant vessels to navigate its waters.

It was decided to go by boat from Balik Papan to Bandjermasin. The distance between these two points is longer than that from the northern part of Formosa to the southern.

Search for Covered Coast

Under the plan a group of small boats was to go out in search of a coast covered with jungles in a voyage of several days across a space of water in which the enemy fleet and the enemy air force were rampant.

I had fears that the fuel and provisions to be carried by this corps would not last long enough.

I once traveled in this region. The entire coast is jungle land. Moreover, the coast line is straight and I had difficulty in distinguishing Bandjermasin.

When I heard of the plan to send this corps in small boats to Bandjermasin, I was seized with a nameless terror. At the same time I was moved to tears by the thought of the sense of responsibility of the first line commander.

As a measure to meet the situation caused by the possible failure of this plan, another unit marched by land between Balik Papan and Bandjermasin. When I heard of this project, I went over a description of points of military importance in this region.

There was no road between Balik Papan and Bandjermasin, I found. I wondered how the unit would manage to march between the two points.

These two groups of troops, surmounting great difficulties, succeeded in capturing the place which was the objective of their operations in a shorter space of time than scheduled.

The difficulties overcome by them and the privations suffered by them in their operations against Bandjermasin are comparable only with the difficulties encountered and hardships experienced by the Kawaguchi corps in the conduct of its operations against the airfields at Pontianak and Ledo on southwestern Borneo.

Palembang fell into the hands of the valiant parachute troops of the Imperial Army on the day before the surrender of Singapore.

The X unit which came by sea and landed after this corps immediately marched southward and captured the airfield at Tandjoenkarang on the southern extremity of Sumatra.

If Bali Island fell the Imperial Forces would be in a position to control the air over Java. It was clear that the transportation of the corps by sea and its operations after landing would be considerably helped if fuel and provisions for it could be prevented from being used by the enemy in the event of their failure to reach our forces due to obstructions by the enemy.

Daring Feat Accomplished

This island was within view of the enemy strongholds at Surabaya and Malang. It would be extremely dangerous to stretch the hand out, so to speak, and try to take it. If someone did that, even the gods would be moved to tears by the daringness of the move. Yet, in the face of strong enemy resistance, a unit of our troops succeeded in capturing Bali.

Lastly, there is Timor. This island was a station for airplanes flying from Australia to the East Indies.

We had to capture this island otherwise, Java would be supplied by Australia even if the sea lanes to it were intercepted.

The corps which reduced this island was that which landed at Amboina, the second largest naval port in the East Indies, and which carried out successful operations in the region.

This corps made a second jump under the very nose of Australia.

All airfields which were necessary to conduct operations against Java now were in Japanese hands. People who had been reading the newspapers and listening to the radio must have felt that Java was like a crab whose legs had been cut off.

Presently the Battle off the Java Coast was fought. In it three cruisers of the Netherlands East Indies were sent to the bottom. This battle had the effect of deepening the impression of people in the fact that Java was helpless.

Was Not Optimistic

I was then at a certain place and never allowed myself to be influenced by this optimistic view about Java although I took part in planning the campaign from the first. Outwardly, we were in a very advantageous position. However, the thought of the condition of the enemy airfields which had fallen into Japanese hands prevented me from waxing optimistic about the situation.

I thought about the future of the supreme commander and his troops who were about to start on an expedition against Java and in order to show my respect and admiration over their determination to brave the difficulties before them I sent a telegram from a certain place to the supreme commander's headquarters. The following passage occurred in my message:

"I heard people say that there is a tendency to think lightly of the present operations from considerations based on a superficial view of the outwardly advantageous position in which we find ourselves although I am sure that there are firm convictions on the outcome of the operations against Java on the part of those who are going to participate in them. But I expect that the difficulties of the commander of the troops going to the front and those under him would be considerable."

As I have pointed out, the sea and air forces of the enemy must be crushed before troops are sent for landing operations.

Much Time Required

Operating from airfields taken from the enemy which were poor although numerous and which were distant from Java, it would take much time to bring about the collapse of the enemy air force.

As for the sea forces of the enemy, it was impossible to tell when the fate could be sealed of the remnants of the navy of the Netherlands East Indies which, having been joined by the American fleet which had escaped from the Philippines, was fleeing before the Imperial Navy, its dreaded enemy. Unless something was done it was clear that there would be delay after delay in the execution of the plan for the landing of troops on Java.

In the meantime, Australia was sending troops to reinforce the force on Java. The possibility could not be excluded of Java becoming a second Crete if time was allowed to lapse before the execution of operations against the island.

Shipping is the problem which confronts all nations in the World War. To let tens of thousands of tons of shipping necessary to transport troops to Java lie idle for any great length of time was obviously not in the interest of the execution of the war.

I thought that the important thing was to give it up. Thus the plan for trans-oceanic operations was launched. This was a departure from precedent.

Units Receive Fuel

The execution of this plan would make it possible for the various units which had started operations for the occupation of various airfields to succeed in completing various daring operations in a manner which would move even the gods to tears in a shorter space of time than scheduled. The units which having received fuel and provisions were contending with difficulties in jungle land, and the units of the Navy which had escorted from which troops were landed, all watched the South China Sea for signs of trans-oceanic operations against Java.

Our plan called for the simultaneous landing of picked troops who were convinced of certain victory in the war at several points on the island after the drastic dispersion of their strength.

The X corps was to land at Kurakan, west of Surabaya, and make a dash against that city.

With this corps the Sakaguchi corps which had made a series of five jumps from the Philippine Islands, went along in a sixth jump.

The task of the Sakaguchi corps was to reduce Solo and Djokja in a swoop and control Tjilatjap, the best port facing the Indian Ocean and which constituted the enemy route of retreat.

The Shoji unit, which had participated in an X battle, although exposed to great dangers, succeeded in controlling the Kalidjati airfield, the largest on Java, which was under the eye of the enemy stronghold at Bandoeng.

Bandoeng Is Captured

The X corps which landed on the northeastern extremity of Java, reduced Batavia and Buitenzorg. Then it captured Bandoeng.

Now the distance separating the corps which was to land at Surabaya and the corps which was to land in west Java was equal to that between Tokyo and Shimonoseki.

The question arose of the place from which the Supreme Commander was to direct operation. The Malay campaign was in a cross line and its objective was Singapore. The East Indies campaign was a straight line. The scene of operations lay in an area with Palembang in the east and Timor in the west. The area was longer than the border line of America and Canada and was wider than Europe from east to west.

Commander Goes With Vanguard

One might have thought that the Supreme Commander should have established his headquarters somewhere near Banjermasin or Pontianak. This view was wrong in that it was based on considerations of the outward conditions of the area.

Lieutenant-General Hitoshi Imamura, after giving orders to the corps under him, went with the vanguard of the main corps.

He boarded a transport, apparently having determined to see that if he died during the voyage the divisional commander under him took his place and in the event of the death of the divisional commander the highest officer under him would step into his shoes.

The mental state of the Supreme Commander was like that of Lieutenant-General Tomoyuki Yamashita during the landing operations of his troops at Singora.

At 10 a.m. on February 18 the transports with troops for Java left port. None of the troops had experienced landing operations since they left the Japanese mainland. With them were horses, one of which fell sick during the voyage.

Transports Near Equator

On the 23rd the transports were traveling near Kuching. Presently they were near the Equator.

On the morning of April 27 the transports entered Java Sea. They were traveling in a southwesterly direction north of Batavia.

Apparently the enemy knew nothing about our troops. There was no attack made by the American and British naval forces on any of our transports.

Severe Battle Off Bantam

There is a bay named Bantam northwest of Java. It is shallow and is inhabited by a large number of small birds. A peninsula west of Bantam Bay was fixed as the landing place of the main Japanese Forces. The landing was set at midnight on March 1. At a certain hour the first ship was sent off and at another hour the second was dispatched. The third dispatch was to complete the landing. Under the equator there is neither dawn nor dusk. At 6 a.m. the sun suddenly rises brightly out of darkness and sets just as suddenly at 6 p.m. The landing was to be made during the dark hours. The headquarters of a certain corps was to land on the second party and the General Headquarters to land at the rear. The ships, however, arrived there earlier than expected at 11:40 p.m. There was no stir in the air. This reminded men of a successful landing without bloodshed.

The first ship was sent out. The signal of arrival at the enemy shores was sent up. A staff officer in charge of the communications wired to the Imperial Headquarters and certain quarters at once to that effect. By this time, however, moderate sounds of guns were heard at the anchorage. The Supreme Commander and chief of staff were standing intently watching the landing with their glasses from a ship. The sounds of guns ceased shortly afterward. According to reports from warships in convoy, an enemy gunboat cruising near the anchorage was sunk by the Japanese Navy Forces.

When I was about to return to my cabin to spend some hours before the landing, I heard a fierce roar of guns afar. I went up on deck. Like ourselves, the Supreme Commander in shirt was witnessing the battle. About 16 kilometers east of the anchorage two warships and one destroyer were exchanging fire. The destroyer was seen steadily pressed by the two large cruisers. A navy staff officer on board our ship told us that the destroyer was ours. The destroyer was attacked by the enemy cruisers on patrol.

After hearing the roar of propellers for a few seconds, we saw a formation of six planes coming in this direction. Although at first it was not certain whether they were enemy craft or ours, we soon found that they were enemy craft.

They began to fly above the anchorage, dropping a number of flare-bombs which made the sea-surface as bright as day. Then swooping down they dropped bombs which caused high columns of water to rise as they hit the water. Anti-aircraft guns aboard our ship opened fire with roaring sounds. Tracer shells were showering on the sea. We could clearly witness warships exchanging fire. The naval engagement gave us an impression that differed from that of the shelling on land operations.

It was for the first time that I observed such a spectacular scene, thousand times more splendid than the fire-work display at Ryogoku. I considered that I would not be given another such opportunity in all my life. A naval officer standing beside me admitted that he too had witnessed such fierce firing for the first time. Before long, a Japanese warship which had just arrived on the scene joined the battle. It was the very same cruiser which I met at a French Indo-China port last summer. The strength of the firing power on both sides became evenly matched. The spectacular naval battle was still continuing with an increasing intensity. A bomb hit a Japanese steamship accompanied by a fierce explosion. A torpedo which later struck the vessel sent it to the bottom. Some cried the s.s. X maru has been sunk and a slightly uneasy expression appeared on the face of our soldiers.

After a few minutes, our attention was focused on two glaring streaks of search-lights to the left of us. Then the radiant rays were replaced by roars of guns and high spouts of water. Then came another streak of search-light Roaring sounds! And the result was an enemy warship was covered with red flames. Someone cried, "An enemy craft has been sunk!" Some soldiers, full of joy, clapped their hands and others shouted "banzai!" The gloomy atmosphere which pervaded us an hour ago had completely disappeared all at once. After that silence again overtook our ship; our eyes were caught by a high column of water which rose on the sea surface 200 meters away on the port side. Soon after, a terrible explosion broke out at a point near the sea shore on the starboard. We including the Supreme Commander, felt that our ship was under the cross-fire of enemy warships. Although the first and second units had landed, the third unit was still on board our ship at that time. Since it was the necessity to make preparations for action, I went down below and returned to my cabin to arm myself. When I was attempting to put on my life-jacket, I felt a dull thud which was more severe than those previously experienced. Glass-panes from the port-holes were broken to pieces and our ship began to list. Since all the Army staff officers in our room had already landed on scouting service, Lieutenant Tanaka, an adjutant, and I were the only persons who were still in the room. At that time, however, I became calm and resolved to swim to the shore which was a mile away, in case our ship sank.

Meanwhile Lieutenant Tanaka had gone to the cabin of the Supreme Commander on the upper deck and I waited for his return at the entrance of our cabin. Before long the lieutenant came down, with the Supreme Commander, the Chief of the General Staff of our Forces and three other high-ranking officers. We went to the passage which lead to the rope ladder. The commander in charge of the transit of troops ordered our soldiers to get on the launches. Our ship listed about 20 degrees on starboard, but our men were calm.

The ship was listing sharply. Someone jumped into the sea. He was followed by Adjutant Tanaka and then by Supreme Commander Imamura. I followed the Supreme Commander. I wore boots, which prevented me from swimming. I lost sight of the Supreme Commander in a few minutes and learned after landing from Adjutant Tanaka that Supreme Commander Imamura was calm and complacent. When he jumped into the sea he grasped a piece of lumber and remained in the water for about 20 minutes when a boat came to rescue him. We

(Continued on Page 2)

One Hundred Million People of Japan Will Celebrate Tencho-setsu Today

His Majesty the Emperor will celebrate His forty-first birthday today. To commemorate this auspicious occasion when His august virtue has been extended to the eight corners of the globe, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association has published the program it has drafted for performance by His Imperial Majesty's one hundred million subjects.

According to the program, His Imperial Majesty's subjects shall offer prayers for His longevity, and shall pledge themselves to renewed patriotism and redoubled determination to bring the War of Greater East Asia to a glorious end.

The proceedings of the ceremony in the Capital will be broadcast on a nation-wide hook-up from 8 a.m. today.

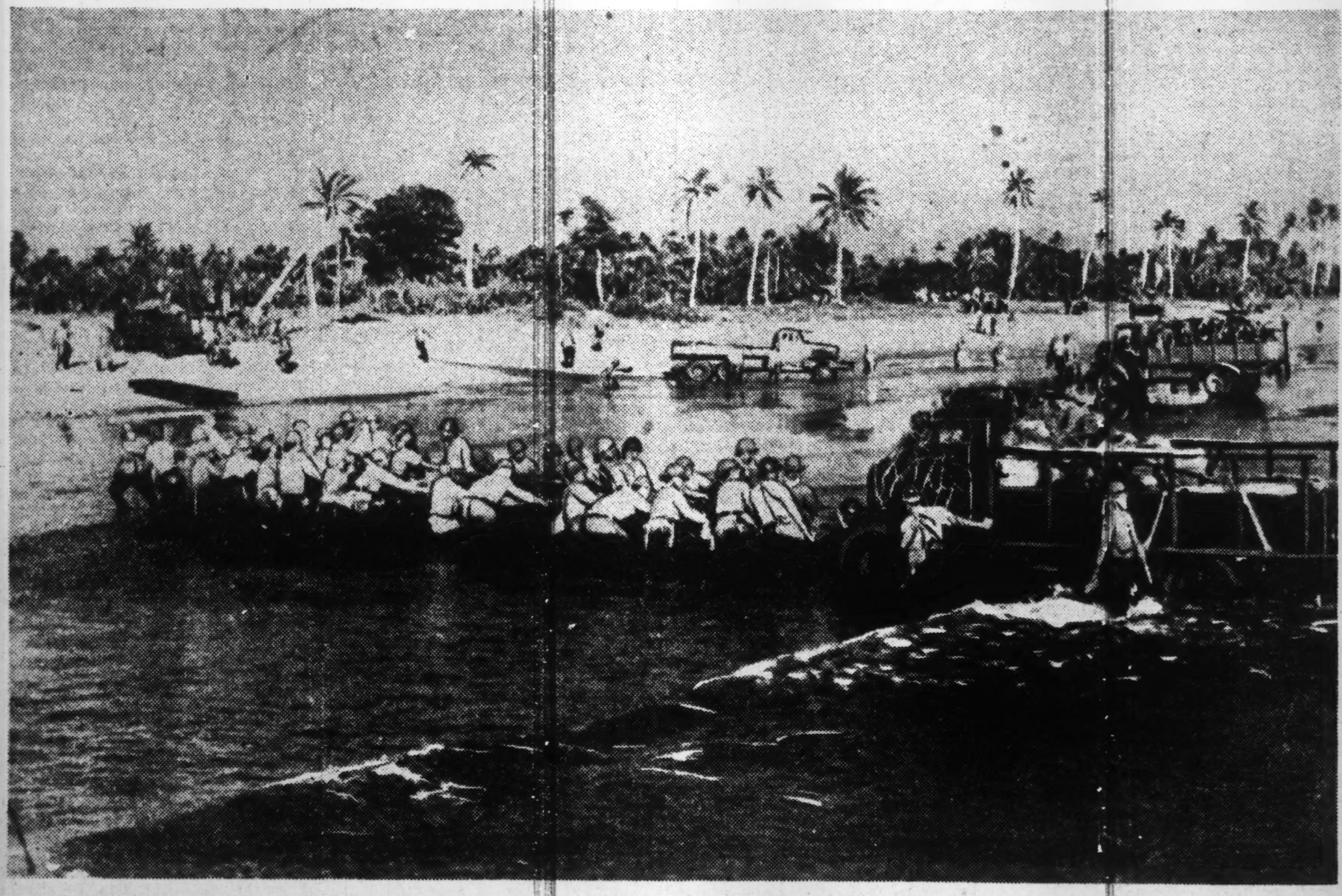
The program published by the Imperial Rule Association fixes the hour of the nation-wide prayers at 8 a.m., when the members of every household are urged to offer prayers in the direction of the Imperial Palace. The program includes another item of instruction to the effect that people living outside the Capital should gather at appropriate places in their respective localities, such as shrine compounds, national schools, or public halls at the fixed hour, to observe the ceremony, and those working in Government and public offices, business houses and factories, should simultaneously observe the ceremony, worshipping at the august likeness of His Imperial Majesty.

Those unable to join the ceremony for unavoidable reasons, are looked upon to remember the hour set aside for the nation-wide celebration, each at his own position to offer prayers in the direction of the Imperial Palace.

Transoceanic Expedition on Unprecedented Scale Puts Finis to So-Called ABCD Encirclement

SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY

Tanaka Unit Landing in Java



Braving enemy aircraft fire, the Tanaka unit above courageously carried on the landing operation off Surabaya in the Java military campaign on March 1. With one, two, three, thirty to forty men of the Tanaka unit in the foreground can be seen pulling the lorry which had just been unloaded from a transport on to the shore. This is an excellent example of the fine spirit of camaraderie that exists in Japan's fighting forces. The rapidity with which the Japanese landings are effected is mainly due to this sort of cooperation, (Courtesy of War Ministry)

Notice

Today being a national holiday in celebration of His Majesty the Emperor's 41st Birthday, there will be no evening issue of the Japan Times and Advertiser.

Historic N.E.I. Campaign Told by Staff Officer

(Continued From Page 1)

saw about 300 to 400 men swimming in the sea after the ship sank.

As I stated before, I wore boots and began to feel difficulty in breathing.

I felt that it would be full of meaning if I had ended my career as a soldier, now that I had participated in the planning of the operations against Java and took part in the actual reduction of the island.

Swims to Vessel

I had physical strength left and to spare. I swam for a distance of five meters and reached the vessel. I lay hands upon the side of the vessel and kicked my boots with the spurs. They came off. I counted it lucky at that time. Subsequently I learned that I was under a hallucination when I thought that it was luck.

The vessel, as I learned afterward, was a high speed torpedo boat of the enemy. Heavy oil was floating on the waters round the vessel whose oil tank had been blasted. The oil made its way into my boots. That made it possible for me to have no difficulty in taking them off. I could easily swim to the vessel opposite and presently got into it. I heard troops calling the name of their superiors and comrades.

Congratulations Exchanged

Someone in a vessel near that I had boarded yelled: "Rescue the commander!"

In the dim light in the vessel I could discern my comrades. We exchanged congratulations.

The Imperial Forces are strong, stronger than any army under Heaven, because each Japanese soldier is ready to make any sacrifice for His Majesty the Emperor.

Was Carried to Beach

When the boat arrived at the coast, it was perceived that the approach to it was bristling with coral reefs. Moreover, the sea-floor was covered with thorny spikes, so that walking on it was out of the question. I had taken off my shoes. My bare feet slipped on the coral floor, and I fell headlong into the sea, receiving several lacerations on my arms and legs. I could not walk, and perceiving my plight, two soldiers from the boat sprang into the water to help me. They carried me to the beach.

Once on terra firma, I inquired for the whereabouts of His Excellency. His Excellency was sitting on a pile of bamboo about a hundred meters from where I was.

I limped painfully to where he was sitting, and reported the successful accomplishment of our landing.

Faces Black as Coal

Presently all the military leaders assembled, and looking at them I noticed that their faces were as black as coal. His Excellency's face was as black as that of the others.

Due to the heavy oil, their uniforms and equipment, including their water-bottles, revolvers, binoculars, and their faces and arms were as black as soot. In the process of getting into the boats some of them had lost their scabbards, and their naked swords gleamed in the faint light.

All of them were in the best of spirits, with the light of battle gleaming in their eyes.

Establish Headquarters

We received some cigarettes from the officers and men who had landed in the first two operations. We talked for a short while in the darkness. Presently we started out for the palm woods near a native village about 1,500 meters from the spot where we had landed. It was dark, but we established our Battle Headquarters there. Reports began to come in. The main body had landed successfully and was even then advancing rapidly.

In the fighting that took place during the landing operations, four ships were damaged. Two of them belonged to Headquarters. One ship was sunk. The remaining one still showed itself above the water due to the shallowness of the sea.

Only Few Missing

Casualties were extremely few, and only a few were missing. The officers and soldiers on the front were overwhelmed with emotion when they heard that the Supreme Commander himself had led this men during the landing operations. Hearing that the Supreme Commander was well, the men were further encouraged, for their joy served only to increase their courage.

Those who had swum in the heavy oil belonged to Headquarters only, and only the principal leaders at that.

Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia we had experienced several strange strategic phenomena. On December 7 we learnt that the enemy planes were menacing our ships in the Gulf of Thai, and we expected that our ships would receive a fierce attack from these planes. Strange to relate however, in the afternoon of the 7th. thick clouds drifted over the ships and obscured them from the sight of the enemy planes.

Heaven-Sent Chance

During the Malay Campaign, our Army Units were waiting at Kota Bharu Airdrome, and in the airfields in the south of French Indo-China our Air squadrons were waiting for their orders. At this juncture the Prince of Wales and the Repulse appeared. It was a Heaven-sent chance.

There are several other instances showing that the favor of Heaven was with the Imperial Forces.

The landing on Java, which we had now experienced, was full of such strange phenomena. If the night had been pitch dark, how would things have turned out? Consternation and panic would have seized us, and there would have been many casualties. Secondly, if the boats had not been lowered when the ships were entering the harborage, or immediately after casting anchor, there would have been thousands of casualties.

Fortunately, immediately after the second unit had departed, it returned to the rescue. Thirdly, the anchorage spot was near the coast, and the boats could return swiftly. Also the sea was so shallow that the ships which ought to have sunk did not sink. Fourthly, the fighting after the landing was undertaken by the other units, and the first stage in the military operations had been completed. If the other ships had been sunk, the military operations after the landing would have been extremely difficult.

Divine Help Seen

But the earlier units had landed without a single casualty, and had pushed on their operations rapidly. With regard to the enemy operations, it must be noted that two large enemy cruisers came to meet one Japanese destroyer. By all the laws of logic we should have been destroyed. Supposing that one of the cruisers had engaged the destroyer in battle, and the other had concentrated on the transport ships. The guns of the cruiser could have sunk our ships one by one, and our forces would have been annihilated.

I cannot understand it. I can only believe that God must have been with us.

The cruisers that attacked us were the Houston, 10,000-ton American cruiser belonging to the U.S.-Philippines Navy, and the Australian cruiser Perth, and they were accompanied by several fast torpedo boats. Their torpedoes crashed into our ships and burst open the heavy oil tanks. When the main force of our navy came on the scene the enemy cruisers were at once sent to the bottom. The casualties in the Army were as mentioned before, and the losses in the Navy were nil.

Wait for Reports

At the Battle Headquarters we waited for reports from the "Surabaya" Corps and the Shoji Unit. Our bodies smarted. We were covered with heavy oil. We peeled off our oily shirts and uniforms. We borrowed shorts and shirts from the men who had landed previously. But the clean shirts we wore soon became black again from the black oil oozing out from our pores.

At break of day we received reports from all quarters that all the troops had landed successfully, and that they were pushing on with their operations. Toward evening we donned ordinary soldiers' uniforms produced from the store, and I removed my insignia of rank and the marks of a staff officer from my soiled uniform and fixed them to the fresh clothes I wore.

Has Bath in River

It would not be appropriate for the Supreme Commander to wear the uniform of an ordinary soldier, and so the adjutant cleaned his soiled uniform with benzine. The benzine immediately became black like India ink.

The sun was sinking in the west when I went to a little stream near by, and took a bath. It was the rainy season, and so the water was a little muddy, but the water of Java is soft, and very good to the skin. I remained in the water for about half an hour, rubbing my skin till the oil had oozed out.

That night I slept in a deserted house. During the afternoon the officers and crew from the Houston and the Perth drifted to the shore. They were all barefooted, and clad only in a pair of shorts. They all bore scars caused by fire. Some of them had their hair all burnt away.

Roads Are Destroyed

The advance units were progressing rapidly, but the enemy had thoroughly destroyed all the roads. All the roads in Java were lined with avenues of trees. The climate and soil favored the rapid growth of plants and the trees that lined the roads had reached a gigantic growth till their trunks measured a meter in diameter. The enemy had planted explosives in the trunks of these trees, and blown them up, so that the roads were strewn at intervals with these huge trunks. Some of the trees had been felled by sawing them through, for the enemy had no time to dynamite all the trees in their hurry to escape.

Progress Made Difficult

Gaping holes yawned in the middle of the roads and progress was difficult. The holes had filled with water, and they were like lakes. Wooden poles sank out of sight when attempts were made to make bridges over them.

Petroleum was plentiful in this region, and the automobile industry had made rapid progress. Even in the countryside there were many gasoline-stands. We had looked forward to using these gasoline-stands, but the enemy had forestalled us. They had filled the oil-tanks with resin. Some of us filled the tanks of our automobiles with this oil, and in a few hours the cars refused to budge.

The enemy had moreover scattered iron spikes on the roads to puncture the tires of our cars.

Had to Carry Bicycles

When the sun rose the damp heat began to oppress us. It was the most trying period of the year in Java. The soldiers were disappointed for they could not use their bicycles for some time, so they carried their cycles with them, stepping over the obstacles in their paths, and marching intrepidly along.

Even Commander X, who was not very strong, put on rubber-soled shoes and puttees, and marched with his men over the heated road.

On this day the front line advanced to the Chijun River east of Celan, but the bridge over the river had been destroyed. As everyone knows, Java is traversed by a range of mountains close to the southern coast, so that the plains of Java face the Java Sea. The rivers of Java also flow into the Java Sea.

Unlike the rivers of China and of Manchoukuo, the rivers of Java have very high banks, so that the legs of the bridges are necessarily very tall. These supports had been thoroughly destroyed by the enemy. Moreover, it was the rainy season, and the waters were in flood. Even the sappers could do nothing in the face of such difficulties. We had come in the firm belief that we would clear up the enemy in record time, but seeing the difficulties in front of us, we thought it would take us about a month.

The commander of a sub-company of the Nasu Unit, at great risk, managed to secure a bridge for us. This was in a country place called Pamarayan, north of Rancaspiton, which was south of Celan. It comprised a dam as well as a bridge over the Chijun River. The sub-company commander departed at the head of an armored car to secure the bridge.

Enemy Driver Falls

An enormous quantity of explosives was fixed to the bridge. The sub-company commander arrived just as the enemy came in a car to fire the explosives. Without the slightest hesitation, the commander ordered the machine-gunner to let fly at the windshield of the enemy car. The bullets pierced the glass, and the enemy driver fell. As soon as the enemy car stopped, the commander and his men charged and killed the occupants. That was on the 2nd.

The next day I accompanied the Chief of Staff to the bridge, and saw the enemy car where it had been brought to an abrupt halt the previous day. Close by was a post marking the spot where a Superior Private had died during the charge. He was the first man to die since we had made our landing. His comrades had laid some flowers against the post.

The seizure of the bridge enabled us to advance to Merak, the landing point of the main army. The Nasu Unit advanced, and headed for Buitenzorg.

We marched on in spite of our fatigue and the heat. We crossed the rivers that lay in our way after trying all possible means. Some cases of drowning occurred. On the 2nd, the Headquarters advanced to Celan. It is the capital of the Bantam district. On March 1 and 2 enemy planes appeared when it became dark, and bombed us. The ships at the harborage were also attacked, and enemy submarines appeared, but the damage was slight.

On the morning of March 3 a telegram came to the Military Staff quarters. It ran as follows: "On the 1st. the Shoji Unit captured the Kalidjati Airfield at noon, and seized a large quantity of war materials. We are taking a portion of the material for the construction of bridges at Purwakarta and Krawang. This morning about 120 tanks and armored cars of the enemy are going from Bandoeng to Kalidjati, heading northward."

From the Surabaya Corps the following wire was received: "According to the confession of the British commander of a captured destroyer, two divisions of the Australian Army have landed at Chilachap."

The Shoji Unit was not a large force. This was further subdivided and the various subdivisions were fighting at different fronts. There were at least 20,000 of the enemy near Bandoeng, which was in front of us. We were worried over the fate of the Shoji Unit, which had, metaphorically, ventured single-handed into the lion's den.

If the enemy had been only the Dutch Army we would not have worried, but the Australian Army was of a different caliber. During the last Great War, the Anzacs had shown themselves to be good fighters at Galipoli. We wished we had increased the force of the Shoji Units a little more.

Anzacs Never Landed

But when the Chief of Staff heard the wire, he said, "The report of the landing of the Australian troops is a lie!" We were amazed at his swift and accurate judgment, and even now we cannot forget that moment. The Nasu Unit progressed eastward after crossing the Pamaranya Bridge. By the 3rd we had reached Lubuliyan, 25 kilometers from Buitenzorg. From here there were four roads to Buitenzorg. All the bridges had been destroyed. The next day, the 4th, we remained the whole day at Lubuliyan. According to reports from the air units, the enemy in Batavia had started for Bandoeng from the 3rd, and were commencing a retreat. The storehouses at Tanjong Priok were in flames. The danger of the Shoji Unit remained as before.

The enemy began to concentrate his forces in Bandoeng. Due to the rivers the forces of the army were scattered.

With the permission of the Chief of Staff, I accompanied the Chief Staff Officer of the X Unit on the 5th, and departed in the direction the Nasu Unit had taken.

The year before last I had toured this region, and under the escort of the then Japanese Consul-General I had covered the distance between Batavia and Merak in one day by automobile. So I decided in my own mind that I could reach Lubuliyan by noon.

But now it was the rainy season, and every day the downpour continued. The road to the Bamarayan Bridge was a country road and not hardened enough. Hundreds of cars had passed before us, and the road was like a Chinese road after a spell of rainy weather. We were stuck several times. We reached Lubuliyan at last at 11 p.m. The headquarters of a certain corps had reached the place before us. In spite of the late hour, the Commander and the Chief of Staff were poring over their maps. I learnt that the Nasu unit and crossed a river and had routed an enemy force 3,000 strong. The unit had then advanced again. Some of the men had been drowned. But the decisive action in crossing the river had lessened the number of casualties. Tomorrow probably they would charge into Buitenzorg.

His Excellency inspected our attire, and sympathized with us.

After talking for a short while he returned to rest, and the next day, the 6th, accompanied by ten soldiers, he departed on foot for Buitenzorg.

Greeted By Villagers

Ever since I had been a company commander in Manchoukuo and had engaged in a mopping-up expedition that had lasted for more than a month, I had developed the conviction that even what looked like impossibilities could be achieved if sufficient thought was devoted to solving the problems. The Nasu Unit too managed to cross the four flooded rivers by some means or other. We marched after this unit. When we rested in villages the villagers greeted us with smiles and brought us some coconuts. When we paid them ten sen in military notes for each coconut, they were astonished, and bowed their heads. Their daily pay was about ten or twenty sen.

Coconut milk has a peculiar odor, but when one gets accustomed to it it is quite delicious. Furthermore, it is safe from infection.

Past two in the afternoon we met a car about two kilometers west of Buitenzorg. It flew the flag of a certain newspaper agency.

The newsmen had accompanied the Nasu Unit. We sprang into the car and hastened along. We stopped at the luxurious residence of the Governor-General. The Governor-General had his residence in this cool country place 50 kilometers south of the capital, Batavia. The islanders called his residence the "Palace." It was a splendid building.

The garden of the Governor-General's residence was considered the world's foremost botanical garden which botanists everywhere desired to visit.

The Commander had not slept a wink for six days since the first landing. After thanking his men for all their trouble, he toured the town.

That night we stayed at a small Dutch hotel. We dined on the rice and canned meat that we had brought with us.

The next day further troops arrived, and we inspected the prisoners. At 3 p.m. we left the town, and on the morning of the 6th, we started for Batavia which had been captured.

Arrive Too Late

We received reports that the natives were going to carry out a large-scale plundering. We hastened with all speed along the country roads, but when we arrived it was too late. Since we had landed, the treatment of the Dutch and the wealthy Chinese by the natives was savage in the extreme. Centuries of oppression had ended with the landing of the Japanese, and the natives were out for revenge.

The Dutch houses were not large, but they were neat and compact, with pretty gardens attached to each house. It is characteristic of the Dutch to fill their houses with furniture. When it came to plundering the houses, the natives first of all took away all the furniture. Next they took away the big beds and other things till not a single article was left. They even peeled off the floor boards, and not content with this, they took off the tiles from the roofs.

We came to Batavia. Here and there street lamps were shining. "Lets go to the best hotel in town," we talked among ourselves. We stopped at the Hotel Desmindez. It was reputed to be the best hotel in the East.

The manager told us that a general was staying in the hotel that night. We thought this was queer, and asked the manager to conduct us to the "general." We found out that he was the head of the military administration. He told us that the headquarters had made a forced march, arriving at the city that night.

The Commander had refused to enter Batavia until Bandoeng had fallen and the whole of Java had fallen into our hands. He was staying at the barracks in the south of the city, and had sent the military administration department into the city to maintain order after the occupation.

For the first time since the landing we had a hot bath, and retired to rest in an air-conditioned room. We slept like logs the moment our heads touched the pillows.

Enemy Ready to Surrender

A voice called in my ear, "Staff Officer." It belonged to Adjutant Tanaka. "It appears that the enemy in Bandoeng is going to surrender." I sprang out of bed, and ordered the car to be ready. I went to Headquarters. First I saw His Excellency. We had breakfast together. We entered the car, and at once headed east for Kalidjati, the first line in the south.

From Batavia to Kalidjati was 120 kilometers. The year before last I had taken a drive over the same route. It was full of memories. The road was splendid. The scenery was exquisite, typical of the Javanese countryside. But today we could not progress as we wanted to, for the three bridges that lay in our way had all been thoroughly destroyed.

Our motor car was forced to run southward in the direction of Buitenzorg for 35 kilometers and then turn to the left at Tjiligong for Krawang along the country road. The car could pass the destroyed bridge at Krawang by any means.

Having finished a simple meal at the left bank of the river, we left the car and crossed the river by means of a bridge improvised by the engineer corps,—crossed over the bridge one person at one time. Including the Supreme Commander, we were all determined to march on foot to Kalidjati from there, if forced to do so.

However, fortunately through the courtesy of General Endo, of the Air Corps, three motor cars and one truck mounted with machine-guns and with guards aboard were sent to pick us up.

As we neared Kalidjati, the air was foul with the evil odor of dead bodies of enemy soldiers. Numerous armored cars and trucks destroyed were discovered here and there.

General Endo, who had arrived at the airfield at 4 p.m., received the Supreme Commander, in a highly spirited matter. General Endo was my teacher for two years when I was a student at the Military Staff College and moreover, I had shared almost all possible hardships with the General in the Singapore Campaign. Therefore, I could not watch the meeting without the deepest emotion.

Here I think it my duty to convey to you, the nation, the war situation as it was told me by an Army Staff Officer detailed to these areas.

Mention has already been made of the distinguished services rendered by the Shoji Unit which carried out landing operations in the face of the enemy and succeeded, at noon of the day of landing, in capturing the airfield there the task imposed upon the unit.

As soon as the capture of the airfield was carried out, General Endo, who was in Palembang, lost no time in flying to the airfield in the first plane which alighted there. As repeatedly told, the annihilation of the enemy air force on Java was not satisfactorily effected because of the fact that our air raids were carried out from incomplete air bases and in the face of unfavorable weather conditions. Therefore, enemy Hurricane and Spitfire planes were remaining still in a large number.

Moreover, the airfield was surrounded by a number of enemy airfields in Batavia, Tjillilitan, Buitenzorg, Anzel, Tjimahi, Cheribon, etc. And in the neighborhood of the airfield, land fighting was still in full swing, with shells exploding at the airfield. And from Patrol, the place of landing, fuel and bombs had to be carried to the airfield under the rain of enemy bullets, and on the way the enemy remnants were still to be found. "The most dangerous situation" were the proper words to describe the situation.

However, in order to cooperate most effectively with the land units, the Japanese Air Force found Palembang too far and Dangyonturiok unsuited for their activity. Because of this fact, General Endo was determined to "dive deep for pearls."

From the Western strategical viewpoint, it may be considered unwise that the Japanese air corps sought their airfield on the first battle front where fighting was in full swing. This was surely against the principle of strategy.

But the ordinary principles of strategy were completely ignored by the far deeper principle of strategy which boiled down to this tactic; the attainment of the maximum cooperation between the air and the ground forces.

Leading the van of the air corps under his command, General Endo carried out the brave advance, unprecedented in the history of warfare, though at the same time prudence was used in the guidance of battles. After a careful meteorological observation of the mountainous regions in Bandoeng, the time of the worst current condition was selected for attacking enemy planes. General Endo judged that such time is the best chance for experienced airmen to crush unskilled air troops accustomed to extravagance and luxuries.

The war situation regarding the appearance of 120 enemy tanks, about which we received information at the Headquarters in Celan on the morning of the third day of the month, was made clear by an Army staff officer. According to him, the enemy tanks approached the airfield through the by-ways where the Shoji Unit was posted and closed in on the airfield as near as 1,000 meters.

No Forces on Hand

In the neighborhood of the airfield at that time, none of our units was present to oppose the enemy's large mechanized troops, except our guards in the airfield. General Endo ordered calmly, "Bomb the foremost tank and the last tank of the enemy column immediately." Our planes took off immediately and started bombing the enemy tanks by nose-diving. The foremost and rear tanks came to a standstill and were set afire. The enemy column of tanks was unable to make any headway or retreat because the place was surrounded by paddy fields. Our planes continued to attack them one by one and thus a large enemy mechanized unit was crushed in a short period of time by our planes. If the proper step were not taken at that time, the airfield would have been trodden by the enemy mechanized unit.

Was Strongly Defended

From pre-war times, Bandoeng was a base for the defense of Java where the enemy's army headquarters were established. Arsenals and munition factories were concentrated there and the enemy was firmly determined to defend the place to the last with 20,000 troops with the support of the United States and British troops. Moreover, in the surrounding mountains "Tochka positions" were completed under the two-year plan.

Despite its repeated defeats the enemy continued counter-attacking Although the Shoji Unit fulfilled the task imposed on it on March 1, the day when the landing was carried out there was danger that it might suffer serious casualties through prolonged fighting. Therefore, it decided to crush the main force of the enemy in Bandoeng by concentrating its full energy. On the night of March 4, a letter was written to General Endo to that effect and the general received the message on the following morning at the airfield. General Endo expressed his consent on the spot.

Attack Is Started

General Endo declared that not even a single soldier shall be left for the defense of the airfield. He promised that his air corps would cooperate with the land force to the last plane in attacking the enemy. Thus, the attack was started by battalions against the huge enemy army of 20,000 soldiers. The determination and fighting spirit expressed by the commander of the Shoji Unit and General Endo were symbols of the command of the Japanese Army and Navy to set an example to the armies and navies of the world.

We arrived at the airfield at 4 p.m. The headquarters were beside the airfield and there we found several high officers of the Netherlands East Indies Army and some 10 persons in ordinary suits. I noticed, for the first time, that among them was the Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies.

Interview is Held

Soon after that, an interview was held by us with the Netherlands East Indies Army officers including the Governor-General. In the midst of the room of the official residence of an officer of the Army Aviation School, was placed a long table.

The Japanese Supreme Commander, the chief of the general staff of our forces and General Endo were seated on the right side and other staff officers stood behind. Governor-General Tjarda entered the room and sat down in front of our Supreme Commander. On the left side of the Governor-General, the Supreme Commander of the Netherlands East Indies Army, Starkenborg occupied his seat. The chief of the general staff of the enemy forces stood on the left side of the Governor-General and his staff and civilian officials stood behind him.

Answer Surprises Japanese

When Lieutenant-General Imamura asked the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands East Indies, regarding the spheres of their respective authorities the Governor-General, strange to say, replied that he had no authority over the army and navy. We had been informed that the navy was controlled directly by the Queen of the Netherlands, but the army by the Governor-General himself. We could not believe him. I wondered if he had made such an answer in order to avoid responsibility or if some trouble had occurred since Sir Archibald Wavell came to the Dutch colony.

When the Supreme Commander asked whether the Governor-General had the intention to surrender to the Japanese, the Governor slowly shook his head with imperturbable calmness. He said that, "Just a minute. Will you please order the newspaper reporter at the entrance out of this room."

Our commander asked "What brought you here?" The reply was: "I came here merely at your invitation in order to confer with you on the civil administration of the island of Java." When asked: "Have you the intention of surrendering," the Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands East Indies replied: "Only our forces in Bandoeng will surrender."

No Match for Japanese

"The Bandoeng district is out of the problem for us and the point is whether, or not your forces in the whole Netherlands East Indies will surrender," said the Supreme Commander. The Netherlands general admitted that "we know very well that we are no match for the Japanese." Then the Governor-General looked sharply at the Netherlands officer. They repeatedly demanded that the suspension of hostilities be limited to the Bandoeng district. Finally Lieutenant-General Imamura declared that it was no longer necessary to continue the negotiations. He said: "If you do not agree to unconditional surrender, we can not help but continue the attack. You had better to return to Bandoeng. Although I guarantee the safety of your life until you pass our sentry line. as soon as you are across our airplanes will bomb Bandoeng. I will, now, however, give you time to reconsider, so will you make your final decision." So saying Lieutenant-General Imamura went out of the room.

Ten minutes later, General Imamura said to the Governor-General, "We will not talk about politics now. You do not seem to be possessed with the military command so I refuse to speak with you. We will continue the conversation with the supreme commander."

Then, the enemy supreme commander was told to give his reply. This enemy commander in charge of the whole Netherlands East Indies Army seemed to be quite fatigued and consented immediately to the wholesale surrender.

The Governor-General said: "I am also ready to telegraph to the Queen for the approval of the surrender." Then he left the room, calmly, saying, "I am not responsible for the matter."

On leaving the room, he again asked us to throw out the cameramen. His attitude was calm. He looked as if he were 54 or 55 years of age, but apparently he was 44 or 45 years old. He held the office of the Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies for five and a half years and lorded over the Netherlands East Indies with a population of 70,000,000. He was a man of the first caliber in the Netherlands East Indies, and he was aware of the wholesale defeats all along the East Indies. Their enemy air force was, at the time, on the verge of complete annihilation due to fierce attacks by the Endo Unit.

Gigantic Holes in Roads

Practically every house in and about Lenban in the northern vicinity of Bandoeng was bombed. The roads were also torn, leaving gigantic holes. It took us four hours before we were able to arrive at Kalidjati, when one and a half hours are sufficient for the journey in ordinary times. The Shoji Unit's troops kept on both sides of the road lest they be detected. Dead bodies of the officers and men of the Netherlands Indies forces were collected in one or two rows along the road. Under the tropical sun the stench was horrible. Several hundred remains of cars scattered along the road revealed the odds against us. On the Kalidjati airfield a large number of Japanese airplanes laden with bombs were about to take off.

This haggard general of the enemy, attired in sack coat, thus came into camp. He did not expect to return safe. Under such circumstances, the self-composed attitude of Governor-General Tjarda and the maintenance of his dignity were worthy of admiration although he was our enemy. His attitude was in striking contrast to that of the Dutch Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Forces and General A. E. Percival, the Defense Commander of Singapore. No people are craftier and more tactful than the Dutch. Tjarda came to the Japanese camp to conduct tactical negotiations even at this moment. This was the same man who is supposed to have given such trouble to the Japanese economic envoys in Batavia in 1940 and 1941.

Long Battle Line

Unlike the operations in Singapore, the battle front in the Netherlands East Indies extended many thousand kilometers from east to west. We knew well that orders for a truce to soldiers operating on such a long line would not be effective everywhere immediately. As a result the Japanese Supreme Commander handed over to the Dutch Commander a note embodying various conditions of surrender and asked for his signature.

The Japanese Supreme Commander added "You had better broadcast by radio the contents mentioned in the note on the morning of the 9th, tomorrow, to all the Netherlands East Indies troops over the whole territory. When we hear your broadcast we will recognise your sincerity in surrendering. Again, at 4 p.m. tomorrow, you shall come here and report to us regarding how the conditions demanded by the Japanese Forces have been put into force."

The sun was going down. Nothing impressive marked the manner of the party, including the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief and Chief of the Army General Staff. Rather, the way in which they surrendered was unseemly to say the least. Anyway, they went through the business of surrendering and returned. Through special leniency, the Japanese Forces permitted them to pass through the sentinel line without being blindfolded.

Comes to Headquarters

At 10:30 p.m. on the 9th the Communications Corps of the Japanese Forces heard the Commander-in-Chief broadcast over the radio. He seemed to have been hit considerably more than we had expected.

As ordered, the Commander-in-Chief came to the Japanese headquarters in the afternoon. The Japanese Supreme Commander lodged another demand and ordered that the business relating to the transfer of important affairs be carried out under orders of the commander of the X unit, who is assistant Supreme Commander. The X unit commander thus entered Bandoeng preceding the entry of the Army Headquarters. The Army Headquarters stopped overnight at a village north of Bandoeng on the night of the 9th. Its formal entry was to take place on March 10, 1, with a staff officer, accompanied the headquarters of the X unit.

On the way we called at the headquarters of the Shoji Unit and expressed our respects for the strenuous manner in which they fought for the past week. When we arrived at Bandoeng it was dark. Till late at night the Dutch Commander-in-Chief was given various orders by the commander of the X unit as to the future disposal of the Netherlands troops. On this night I put up at the Hotel Horman where I had stayed two years ago.

Java had finally fallen. This occurred far earlier than was expected. In only one week after landing, the very difficult military operation was crowned with success.

Joy Reflected in Faces

Before we welcomed the Supreme Commander on March 10, 1, with staff officers, went through the streets of this military base to see how the surrender was made. As was the case with the fall of Singapore, there was joy and relief on the faces of the officers and men who had surrendered. Arms and ammunition were placed neatly by the enemy soldiers as had been ordered by the Japanese Forces.

I was really struck by the fact that, be they British, Dutch or Americans, they made a point of surrendering in orderly fashion. The idea changes as the race changes. How is it with the Chinese? Many poems composed by them when their provinces were defeated in war reveal their psychology. However, the British and Americans go simply by reason, while we Orientals, have something that cannot be judged in this manner alone. This sometimes manifests itself in determination and on another occasion in tender sentiment.

To welcome the Supreme Commander in the afternoon, I went over to the Isora Hotel in the north of Bandoeng. This hotel used to be occupied by a wealthy person, but was reconstructed. It is known for its cleanliness. I entered the room where I put up when I came here in 1940 and, after borrowing a safety razor from a Dutch prisoner who is an officer, I shaved for the first time since landing. Meanwhile, the Supreme Commander arrived with his headquarters and in his company I entered Bandoeng.

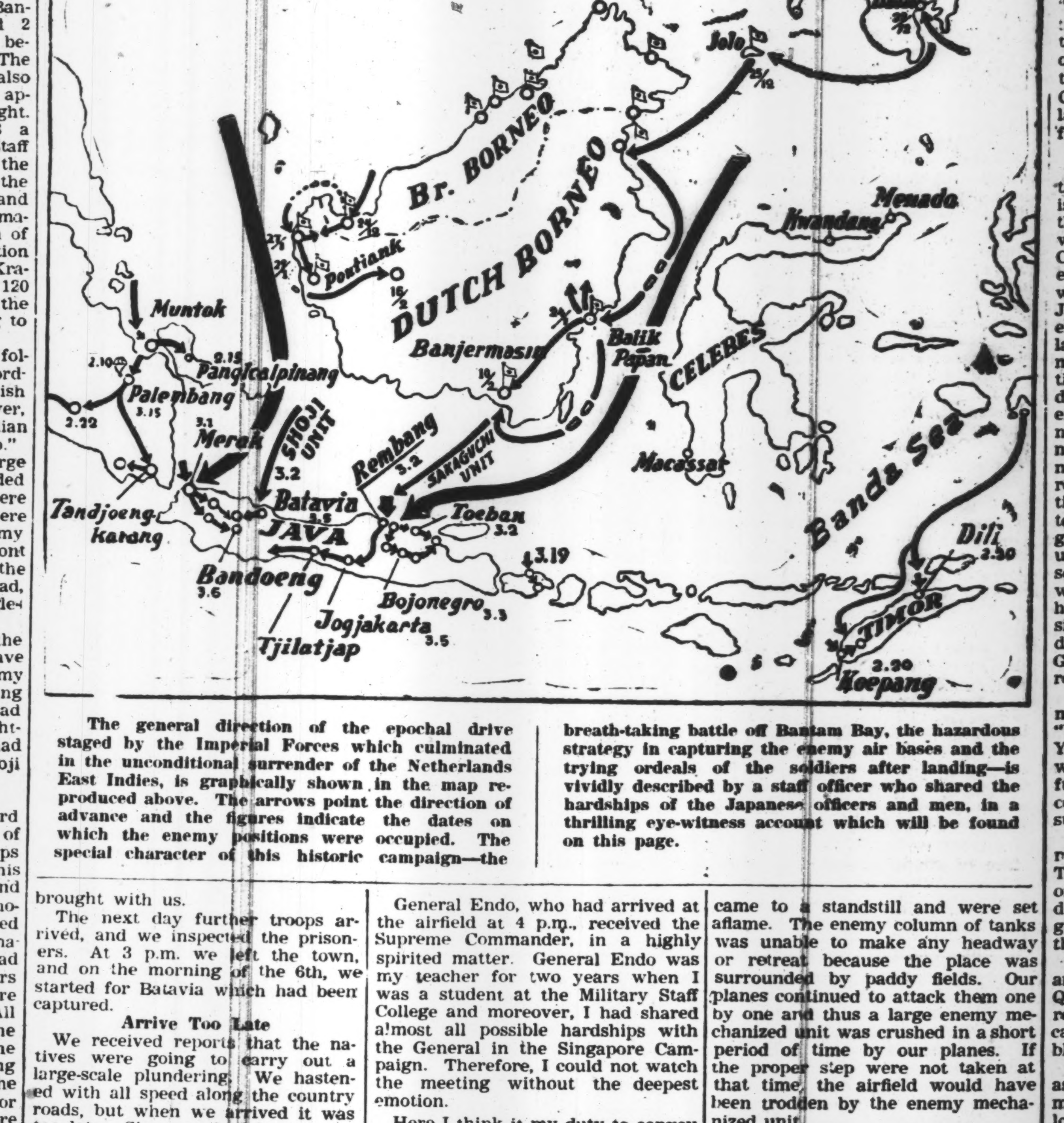
Simple Dinner Given

As the day's memorable entry into Bandoeng fell co-incidentally on the anniversary of the fall of Mukden in the Russo-Japanese War, the Supreme Commander invited all commanders of corps and units as well as staff officers to a simple dinner. While the dinner was going on, Consul-General Ishizawa, Consul Kuwaori and more than 30 other diplomats joined us. These diplomats had been imprisoned at Sukabumi, the famous summer resort, since December 8, last year. They looked haggard and excited. Japanese residents who remained in Java till the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia were sent to India. These diplomats must have been greatly concerned regarding the fate of these Japanese.

On the following day the Supreme Commander was to fly over to Palembang in Sumatra to thank the X Unit which achieved brilliant war results without outside help. As I was ordered to go back to Tokyo on March 8, I was not able to join this trip, but I deliberated with staff officers on matters concerning the future of Java. Late at night I took leave of the Supreme Commander

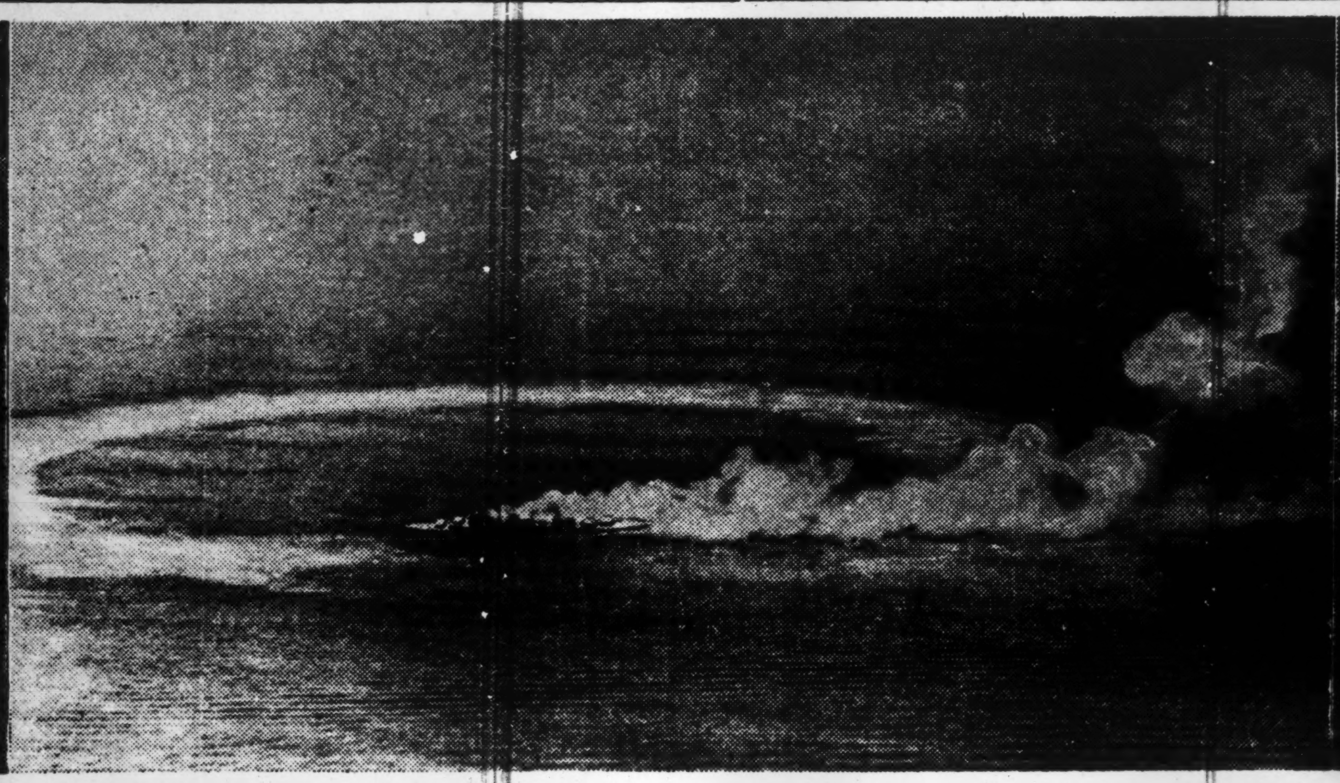
(Continued on Page 3)

Map of Historic N.E.I. Campaign



The general direction of the epochal drive staged by the Imperial Forces which culminated in the unconditional surrender of the Netherlands East Indies, is graphically shown in the map reproduced above. The arrows point the direction of the advance and the figures indicate the dates on which the enemy positions were occupied. The special character of this historic campaign—the breath-taking battle off Bantam Bay, the hazardous strategy in capturing the enemy air bases and the trying ordeals of the soldiers after landing—is vividly described by a staff officer who shared the hardships of the Japanese officers and men, in a thrilling eye-witness account which will be found on this page.

Two British A-class Cruisers, Dorsetshire and Cornwall, As They Were Subjected to Aerial Attack



Back of the Imperial Headquarters' communique of April 9 that the Japanese Navy Units had sunk two British A-class cruisers in the Indian Ocean were these graphic, gripping pictures of enemy ships zigzagging in a desperate effort to evade the Japanese aircraft soaring overhead. In the right photograph, two British A-class cruisers, Dorsetshire and Cornwall, are seen skidding over the waters of the Indian Ocean, but both of them were unable to escape unscathed. They can be seen in flames after receiving direct hits. In the middle picture, Cornwall has come to a dead stop after describing an ellipse on the water. The Cornwall displaced 10,000 tons, had a speed of 31.5 knots and a complement of 679. She was equipped with eight 20.3-centimeter guns, eight 10.2-centimeter high-angle guns, twenty high-angle machine guns and three seaplanes. The A-class cruiser at the left, Dorsetshire, is about to plunge into the depth of the Indian Ocean. Built in 1926, it had a standard displacement of 9,975 tons, with a maximum speed of 32.25 knots. (Censored by Navy Ministry. No. 571. Photographs taken by the Naval Air Corps.)

DUTIES OF PARENTS IN WAR DISCUSSED

Onerous Responsibilities Placed On Shoulders of Mothers Due To Conflict

(Continued From Yesterday)

As already stated, this war means, besides being a war of force, ideology and economics, really a struggle carried out and on through the livelihood of the so-called 100,000,000 people of one and single mind. And in this sense our families are virtually a part of the units fighting on the battle grounds. It calls for a supreme self-denial on our parts in order to attain the final goal.

The lasting deeds performed by the Nine Naval Heroes of the Special Attack Flotilla who were determined to sacrifice their lives in the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, should be a source of encouragement. In the eyes of those dauntless men there were no fame, wealth, or pleasure: but their's was a perfect self-abnegation, personification of the great Japanese spirit.

This is the spirit required of everybody behind the guns, in order to make our livelihood what it should be in this war. And in this, there should be no grumbling about one's discomfort, inconvenience and shortage of things, for we are in a war of an unprecedented scale.

Now let us take up the question of food as the first essential. Though we have come to control vast agricultural resources in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, thanks to the propitious outbreak of the war, yet it is far from us to expect an abundance of food supplies in the immediate future.

Clothing Rationed

Next we take up the question of clothings. Clothes have been rationed since February 1 of this year and it is our turn to make the best out of it, as a part of the general campaign. Unlike the food which we can control uniformly, clothes rationing has got to be done on a composite point system. The ideal is in obtaining a fair and smooth distribution of clothings and in regulating consumption. At the same time the Government intends to fix the amount of production in order to assure minimum consumption, without, however, undermining proper living standards.

The rationing system is considered most appropriate. Under this system there should be no profiteering, hoarding, cornering and sales to favorite clients only. Traders as well as the general public should always think of the cause of this system, which was necessitated by the war. They must live up to the rules and regulations set down by the Government.

The distributors and traders, in particular, should realize the fact that they represent an important unit of the nation's livelihood. They see to it that things are disposed of fairly and smoothly, and not to be carried away through the back door or by way of favoritism or held back from buyers.

Much is expected of mothers and housewives to improve living conditions, food, clothing and consumption of the daily necessities in general. There are four outstanding points which should be brought up for their consideration.

1. They must have a clear understanding of the object for which this war is fought. They are to carry through this unprecedented conflict to victory by a strict family planning.

2. They must have a new outlook on the newly created situation as we are apt to be caught up by the conventions and prejudices of the past. The new outlook means to liquidate all those conventions and prejudices and to have a new psychological attitude.

3. They must try to make the family life in war as full and perfect as possible. It is essential to face the future with a new, bright hope and overcome all difficulties that may arise, with their families as the center of their activities, in order to build up a new home front.

4. The importance of the mother's position in the family as tutor is very urgently felt now. Mother is the best teacher and home the most ideal class room. In order to bring up good children, parents have to show examples by their own living. In the sense that the mothers must be imbued with a pure and fervent patriotic devotion, home is sacred. Mothers must cultivate with the children the spirit of piety, the knowledge as to the characteristic features of the Japanese home life, the pious worshipping of ancestors and family lineage, the respect for religious ceremonials, the duty to the Throne.

Duty of Parents

To teach children in these fundamentals, it is up to the parents that they should live up to it in their daily life. Particularly must they emphasize the spirit of valor to overcome all hardships. An independent spirit must be instilled in the children so they may learn to take care of themselves. In short, it is to imbibe into the minds of children a right view on a right living under the war conditions.

On a larger view, children must be taught how to behave as leaders of Greater East Asia. They must have sturdy physical consitutions so that they can overcome all hardships and privations with perseverance. The training of their minds for harmonious cooperation with other peoples should be the rule in this instance.

Mothers' Duty

Lastly, their scientific education at home is also important. To promote science and to advance scientific education is one of the great educational problems facing the future of Japan. As we are all familiar with the truth that the promotion of scientific education must be started with children, the mother's responsibility is, in deed, heavy. To have the children's minds trained scientifically, she must start with toys and picture books to excite their scientific interests. On the other hand, she must teach them through their actual home life, and by her own planning, how to live scientifically.

After all is said and done, the mother is the source of our future well-being. The future of the nation is held in her arms and womb. Upon her rests our national prosperity and cultural advancement.

For the conclusion of this entire article, we must lay stress on the confidence we have in winning an ultimate victory in this war. This War of Greater East Asia is the greatest task confronting us in our long history. When we emerge victorious, we will have a boundless, glorious future. But until that time comes, we must expect to experience inconveniences and hardships, perhaps more than what is in order now.

We must be absolutely confident of the final triumph. The key to it lies in the fighting spirit of our people to fight through to the finish and in our confidence of our sure victory. This war, in its final analysis, is a war fought through confidence, our confidence matching that of our enemies. No matter what hardships we may face in future, we must not be carried away by immediate gains, nor be content with small successes.

ARGENTINA BANISHES COMMUNIST AGITATORS

Most Worked Under Cover of Relief Propaganda for Russia Aid Body

Transocean

BUENOS AIRES, 13.—Fifty-eight Communists, including 31 foreigners, were either expelled or banished to provincial districts where their activity can no longer endanger the security of the State.

An official communique issued in this connection states that these persons had carried out Communist activity, mostly under cover of "relief" propaganda for the Russian Aid Committee.

One of the most well-known Communists who was expelled from the country is Augusto Bunge. Bunge had repeatedly been in conflict with the Argentine authorities on account of spreading Communist propaganda. He had visited Soviet Russia frequently in the past.

Historic N.E.I. Campaign

(Continued From Page 2)

and after thanking him for his favors during the campaign I planned to leave for Batavia by motor car on March 11.

At a dinner held on March 10 the modest Supreme Commander admonished his junior officers as follows: "The present campaign has been achieved more quickly than was expected. This is solely due to the Imperial glory. We must remember at this moment the careful plan and command of the Imperial Headquarters and General Headquarters as well as the far-reaching war results of the Japanese Forces in Malaya and our friendly forces and that this has helped to make our operations successful." We cannot but bow to this advice of the Supreme Commander.

Report is Submitted

A staff officer of the Sakaguchi Corps arrived to submit a report. Since its landing on Davao this corps had carried out gallant campaigns against the enemy in the South Seas and after landing on Java it proceeded southwest in central Java carrying everything before it. It succeeded in occupying various important enemy bases, including Solo and others and finally placed Tjilatjap, the only way for the enemy to retreat, under its occupation and, when the enemy commander-in-chief surrendered, it advanced 50 kilometers west of Tjilatjap. A "Surabaya" corps attacked and captured Surabaya in short order, thereby helping to enable the main operations of the Japanese Forces to go on without a hitch.

I took leave of the picturesque island of Java on March 12 after silently praying to the souls of my fallen comrades. Lastly, I should like to emphasize the fact that the "final issue of war is decided during the last five minutes." Warring units are well balanced. If either is unequalized, there will be no war. In this case, the country tries to tide over the crisis by diplomatic negotiations. If war really breaks out, it will surrender easily. It is balance that prompts countries to fight. If its strength is unequal at first, war will be waged when a country is confident of restoring the balance to normalcy and thereby vanquish the enemy. This was the case with the Singapore warfare. For four days from February 12 to 15 both sides were well-balanced. We were really dumbfounded to see appalling spoils of war on the fall of Singapore. This was true of Java.

Enemy in Same Plight

The superiority of Japanese strategy apart, only certain battalions crossed swords in mortal combat with the enemy numbering more than 20,000. The main Japanese Forces pushed their way to the south and north of Batavia after crossing several flooded rivers, leaving many guns, cars and ammunition behind. "When troops are in a predicament, enemy troops too, are in the same condition." This is an iron rule in warfare. It was the maxim of the Japanese everywhere and with a strong fighting will and with the excellent ability of the high commanders our soldiers attacked the enemy. I believe that troops that are pessimistic or which complain will lose because this weakens their fighting spirit.

Frederick the Great of Prussia, surrounded by strong enemy countries, went through hardships and privations for seven years. As Nazi Germany is proud of its history, so Prussians at the time of the Seven Years' War, with grim determination fought the last issue and achieved their original purpose. The world today is on the road to reform. The incident of December 8, 1941, was a fuse. The sacred task of the Japanese Empire is making headway under the Heavenly Will.

Must Fight It Out

A New Order is about to be consolidated in Greater East Asia on the basis of the August Mind of the Japanese Empire. The anti-Axis countries have experienced successive war reverses but they are firmly confident of the fact that the war situation is well-balanced. Not only this, but they have strong confidence, recollecting the end of World War I. We must fight to the last to win, surmounting all difficulties in our way. We must fight and devote ourselves, heart and soul, to the final goal of achieving the greatest and loftiest task in the world.

When we are in a predicament, the enemy too are in the same position. The issue of war will be decided at the last moment. The strong national will is the only factor that is able to break the balance. Unshakable national solidarity and the practice of priority of public service to private interest should be kept up to the last.

Today's Press Comments

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

His Imperial Majesty's Birthday

ASAHI—Today we greet the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor for the first time since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. With His loyal and brave soldiers' activities over-awing the nations all over the world, the Rising Sun flags are fluttering throughout the breadth and length of Greater East Asia. It is really an unprecedented scene of magnificence to see that the entire nation is now united to sing the praise of His Imperial Majesty's virtue and wish His longevity.

Incidentally, the one hundred million subjects of His Imperial Majesty have ample reason to take supreme pride in their honor and happiness derivable from His benign rule.

We humbly reminded ourselves that His Imperial Majesty has reached his forty-first year and that He is enjoying ever-improving health—a source of profound joy to His subjects.

It will be remembered that His Imperial Majesty issued His Imperial Rescript on December 8 last year, declaring war on the United States of America and Great Britain. Infinitely struck with His august will, all His subjects rose as one to answer His command, pledging themselves to an immutable determination to bring the war to a glorious end.

Despite the lapse of less than five months since the opening of the War of Greater East Asia, the heaven and earth in the Co-Prosperity Sphere have been brought under His Imperial Majesty's influence and the major half of the Pacific and Indian Oceans under His control.

Now it devolves upon the nation at large to exert itself for the final and glorious goal . . . victory of our country in recognition of His Imperial Majesty's august will.

Greeting The Birthday of His Imperial Majesty

MIYAKO—Today, for the first time since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, we greet the Imperial Birthday of His Imperial Majesty. We greet it with renewed determination to pursue the war to a successful conclusion. Even our glorious history has no parallel to this momentous occasion.

Within the short space of four months since the outbreak of the war the power of our enemies, Britain and America, has been crushed, and the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere is on the verge of realization.

Japan began her advance with the Manchurian Incident. Her second step forward was made with the China Affair, which lasted for five years. And now this great stride forward is made which marks a turning point in history.

We, the people of Japan, under the infinite blessing of His Imperial Majesty, must endeavor to push the war to a successful completion, overcoming all difficulties, and must not rest until our enemies, Britain and America, are destroyed.

The Imperial Forces have achieved remarkable victories in all their spheres of operations. The first stage of the war of arms is over. The sensational part of the fighting is over. From now on begins the war of construction. The real struggle is in front of us. This coming struggle will prove the mettle of the Japanese nation. It is no use fighting if we do not build. We must throw ourselves into the reconstruction of East Asia with the same indomitable spirit of victory that distinguished our fighting forces.

Japan is in a position to become the political teacher of the world, to teach all nations the principle of Hakko Ichiu. The peoples of the occupied territories, numbering many millions, welcome the Japanese. This is a source of great joy to us. The spirit of Japan will permeate the new lands. It is our task to make it so, proving thus our loyalty and reverence to His Imperial Majesty.

Special Text Book For Prevention Of Inflation

CHUGAI—Within half a year since the outbreak of the war, the wartime economy of the United States is facing the peril of inflation. The American Government has been trying its best to stop this.

President Roosevelt recently submitted to the Lower House a measure for curbing inflation. The measure included the increase of taxes, control of goods, absorption of buying power, and others. In the history of America there is no parallel to the present critical situation the country is facing and the control measures are the strongest yet in American history.

In other words, President Roosevelt has made a confession that the so-called self-sufficing power of America is a myth. President Roosevelt has warned, the people that they might have to undergo the same sort of crisis that faced the nation in 1922.

But first the American public wants to know who is responsible for bringing on this crisis. The effect of the inflation-prevention measures will be to lower drastically the standard of living of the Americans. This, to the individualistic and capitalistic Americans, is the most unbearable part of all. Last week Wall Street bitterly criticized the President, and the prices of all the principle shares slumped to rock-bottom level.

The inflation problem is the biggest and knottiest problem that is facing the American Government. We cannot help but wait with interest to see if the American Government will be able to solve this problem to the satisfaction of all.

NEW COASTAL DESTROYER IS LAUNCHED BY SWEDEN

720-ton Mode Has Armament Of 13.5 c.m. Guns and Strong A. A. Artillery

Transocean

STOCKHOLM, April 13.—A new Swedish coastal destroyer was launched in Goeteborg Sunday. It took six months to construct.

This new destroyer, which is the sister ship of the Mjoelner, launched last Thursday, was christened the Mode.

These coastal destroyers are a new type of four Swedish warships being built at present. They are small destroyers.

The Mjoelner displaces only 635 tons while the Mode has a displacement of 720 tons. Their artillery consists of 13.5-centimeter guns, strong anti-aircraft artillery, three 53-centimeter torpedo tubes and equipment for dropping depth charges.

U.S. FARM INFLATION SEEN

Agricultural Estates Show Big Increase in Value

Transocean

LISBON, April 14.—Agricultural estates in the United States have increased in value in the past 12 months by $2,306,000,000, it is reported from New York. The whole value of all agricultural land in the United States is estimated at $36,000,000,000.

Well-informed circles there regard this as indicating eventual inflation in agricultural values, as was the case during the World War, which turned out to be catastrophic for the farmers.

Germany Extends Aid To European Industry

(Continued from Page 6)

sive extent, is undoubtedly undesirable.

Number of Workers Exceeds

The above-mentioned industrial tasks lie within the province of industries, engaged in the production of consumer goods, and partly within the province of definitely large plants. If the desired increase of production is not based on German industry alone, a further transfer of tasks to neighboring countries would have to task place. This question, however, cannot be discussed here at great length. Precedence of German industry is not only a political demand, it is an economic fact, based upon its number of industrial workers which far exceeds that of all other European countries as well as upon the quality and size of its industrial plants.

Thus German industry will perforce take the lead in solving tasks of vital importance, not to mention the assistance and stimulus it will give to other lands across Germany's frontiers and even though Germany is not to become an industrial hydrocephalus of Europe (which no one desires) nevertheless the tasks devolving upon industry in the future are so urgent that the demands of territorial planning can only be made to harmonize with them after detailed consideration.

These considerations allow of a few assumptions regarding the question of seats of industry or perhaps its transfer from the West to the East. Certain industries are favorably located in order to carry out the above-mentioned new industrial tasks whether because of their closeness to raw material resources or of their vicinity to markets, particularly districts in which agriculture has lagged behind. However, apart from the fact that these matters can be clarified only from individual standpoints, a very strong argument claims our attention when the question of the main seat of European industry is taken into consideration. Germany's central position in Europe makes the connection of German industry with neighboring countries a serious obligation. A few important instances will do to bear out this statement.

Partners of Rhine System

1). Germany's connections with its western neighbors: Not only is the industry of Alsace, Lorraine and Luxembourg once again included in the industrial life of Western Germnay,— Belgium, Holland and Northern France, once they have awakened from their dreams of overseas, will enter into relations with German industry to an ever-increasing extent. These highly qualified industrial areas are, viewed from a geographical angle, all partners of the Rhine system. Thus it may be concluded that the German section of this great industrial area cannot be organized only according to Germany's needs but that it must develop and consolidate its leading and helpful position in cooperation with the countries of Western Europe, particularly as these non-German territories are facing a difficult period of reorganization.

(2). This is equally applicable to the Scandinavian and Baltic countries although perhaps relations there are not so localized. Here too thorough changes are imperative, for instance in Denmark where there are highly qualified workers and technicians. German industry must here be a partner to the cooperation which will lend a helping hand to the country and guarantee a maximum of success.

(3.) In regard to Southeastern Europe, Germany has certain wishes with respect to the main seat of industry.

(4.) Relations with countries across Germany's future Eastern frontiers demand industrial centers for those branches of industry whose purpose it will be to further the colonial development of the East. Of the tasks to be done it may be enough to mention the improvement of agricultural conditions and the utilization of timber and mineral wealth. The improvement of communications will take considerable time. One of the main tasks will be to provide equipment for the neighboring countries so that economic relations can be intensified as quickly as possible. These are but a few instances to show that the question of industrial centers which in the Reich itself are determined by the desire to counter-balance the East and the West, will in view of Germany's leading position in Europe be strongly affected by the obligations of German industry to other countries.

Our first reflections showed that similar conclusions could be drawn with regard to the total capacity of German industry. The German national territorial planning and the European economic reconstruction which will be directed by Germany are thus indissolubly linked up. This is today much more apparent than for instance after the conclusion of the Polish campaign, when the creation of a balance between Germany and the East had become one of the main tasks of total territorial planning. In those days the German living space could be looked upon as complete in itself and it was only a case of keeping one's own house in order. We today know that after this world war a total reorganization of European industry will be unavoidable.

DEATH

At the International Hospital in Kobe on Sunday, April 26th, 1942, at 4:50 a.m.
Joannes Louis Antoine FARGIER
in his 46th year.

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Literature Of Heian Era Is Discussed

The classical age of Japanese literature is that known in history as the Heian Period, viz., that when Heianjo (or Kyoto) was the real center of government of the country. It may be taken as lasting from A.D. 784, when Kyoto was made the capital, until 1185, when Yoritomo established the rule of the military caste, states a noted literary critic.

About the beginning of this period the phonetic script known as the Kana came into use. It greatly simplified the art of writing the Japanese language. The poetry of this time is contained in the Anthology known as the Kokinshiu, which consists almost exclusively of short poems of 31 syllables to the neglect of Nagauta.

The next work of the Heian Period to be noticed is the Taketori Monogatari. It is the first specimen of a kind of literature which has ever since been a great favorite in Japan, viz., the fairy tale, or, to be more accurate, the Mahrchen. It is the story of a moon-maiden banished to earth for an offense against the lunar laws, and who gives much trouble to her earthly suitors, the Mikado himself included, before she returns to her celestial home in a flying chariot which was sent for her. It contains both sentiment and humor, but the language has hardly yet attained to classical perfection.

The Ise Monogatari is a work of a different stamp. As a specimen of early Japanese prose it is unrivalled, being systematic in its arrangement, and elegant, concise and perspicuous in style. It has, in short, all the qualities which we are accustomed to comprehend under the term "classical." The Ise Monogatari is a sort of novel. It relates the love adventures of a gay young courtier named Narihira, and his journey to the east of Japan, then a region full of terrors to the traveler from the capital. The Tanka contained in it are of more than average merit.

The Heian Period produced a large number of other Monogatari of considerable merit and interest. Monogatari, it should be explained, means "narrative." It is generally applied to fictitious narrative, but toward the end of this period one or two historical works appeared under this description.

Genji Monogatari

The great glories, however, of the Heian Period of Japanese literature are the Genji Monogatari and the Makura Zoshi, both written by women and nearly at the same time, i.e., about A.D. 1000.

The author of the Genji was a lady of noble birth, known to us as Murasaki no Shikibu, who held an official position at the Court of the Mikado. As a picture of a long past state of society, there is nothing in the contemporary European literature which can for a moment be compared with it. The language of the Genji is the acknowledged standard of the classical period.

The second masterpiece of the Heian Period, the Makura Zoshi, is a work of a different description. The author, Sei Shonagon, was a lady-in-waiting to the Empress, and came of a distinguished family, being directly descended from one of the Mikados. It is the first specimen of a kind of literature of which Japan has in recent times seen many examples, and which is represented in English by such works as the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Thackeray's Roundabout Papers, etc. In the Makura Zoshi the author has recorded her impressions and observations during her life at Court. Humor is her forte as sentiment is that of Murasaki no Shikibu.

40 Volume History

Toward the end of the Heian Period, we meet with the first attempts (if we except the archaic Kojiki), at writing history in the Japanese language. The most important of these is the Yeigwa Monogatari, in 40 volumes, which covers the period from 889 to 1093, but is intended chiefly as a glorification of the rule of the Kwambaku or Regent Michinaga. The Oho-Kagami, or Great Mirror, is another work of this kind. Unfortunately, however, there is observable a tendency for the historical works written in Japanese to become more romantic and poetical than instructive. They subsequently degenerated into mere paraphrases of history, and in modern times resulted in the historical novel. For research, the only trustworthy records are the official histories in the Chinese language.

There are two works which, although not written in the classical period, are characterized by the same qualities of style and language, and therefore deserve a short notice here.

One of these is the Hojoki, written about A.D. 1200, by a Buddhist hermit named Chomei. In it he describes his hut in a retired mountain spot a few miles from Kyoto, with his manner of life and occupations. A much more important work is Kenko Boshi's (died 1350) Tsure-dzure-gusa. The Tsure-dzure-gusa is plainly inspired by Sei Shonagon's Makura Zoshi. It is a series of essays and anecdotes something in the style of Selden's Table Talk.

The classical literature of Japan has not yet received the attention which its importance deserves. With a very few exceptions, the translations of the works which compose it fail to do complete justice to their literary quality, or even to represent the meaning with sufficient accuracy.

Goddess Benten

The only female member of the Seven Lucky Deities is Benten who is the goddess of music, eloquence, arts and fortune. The goddess is particularly worshipped at the island of Enoshima, near Kamakura and the island of Chikubushima on Biwa island.

Story of Garacia

Her Life Was Spent In Tumultous Era

Concluded From Yesterday

"Garacia, take those dirty houses away." Tadaoki commanded his wife upon seeing her.

Doesn't my lord like it?" she said with a smile.

"Like it? Stop your nonsense. If you stick to your lessons in dance and hand drum, that would be different. There should be a limit to your whimsicalities."

"How can you call it a whim. It takes more than whims to support these poor children."

"How many such children do you think there are in the whole nation? What good would it do to support only that many."

"I wanted to take care, at least, of those children in your fief."

"A narrow love I call it. A love for only those around you. You're just playing with love."

"At least it's better than playing with hand drums."

"You're mistaken. You can entertain your husband with a hand drum. Now, think. Here I come back after a hard life on the bloody battle ground, and what do I see. A house full of dirty urchins. I want to see beautiful dances. I want to see a pretty wife. I don't want to hear any argument."

Garacia had those houses taken away on the following day. She gave money to some merchants in the town and asked them to look after the children.

She felt that she couldn't blame her husband for being so temperamental. From that day she took more care in her toilette. She called Noh performers and saw to it that there would be the sound of flutes and hand drums in her home. However, the temperament of Tadaoki was not to be appeased so easily. It was inborn. Although she had known of his bad temper from the time of marriage, she had never known it to be so bad. She felt that it grew worse with the years.

How can I alleviate his roughened heart? This question never ceased to occupy Garacia's mind. She exerted every effort to soften him who had to pass half of his life going from one battlefield to another. He had even crossed the sea to fight in Chosen.

However, her efforts sometimes turned out to be fruitless and even called forth her husband's anger. Then he would scream out, "Take it away. Quickly. This very minute." And the warrior's voice would ring through the whole castle.

Uncontrollable Jealousy

What caused Garacia the most suffering however was not this temper of Tadaoki but his excessive love for her. The cause of this jealousy, for jealousy it was, might have been his frequent absence and again, it might have been Garacia's extraordinary beauty, which was the center of praise of the different Daimyos, far too much for Tadaoki's liking.

He commanded the guards to see to it that she would not leave the castle during his absence, and he even had a spy under him who was to watch her every single move.

She could not understand why her husband had to watch her so strictly. What had she done? What had she said? Then the ruddy face of Hideyoshi with lines folded deeply on the forehead came into her mind. She remembered one day he had said before her and her husband." Tadaoki, you have as a wife a flower so beautiful that I am tempted to pick it even if it's in another's yard. Beautiful! She's more beautiful than Yodo." Although she had known that he was an unusually frank person, she had not been able to hear these words without blushing. Her husband had pretended that he had not heard.

Tadaoki had heard of all kinds of rumors about Hideyoshi, who out of mere curiosity and prank did things that caused the sorrow of the Daimyos, who were helpless before his power. Tadaoki certainly didn't want that monkey-faced Hideyoshi peep through his fence. Knowing her husband's anxiety, Garacia took every care of herself. However, her husband would always find some cause for worry, to which even the gentle Garacia had to retort with anger. A husband and wife's quarrel, others might say. But the real cause was Tadaoki's excessive love for her. Oshimo knew this well and would look smiling at the quarrelling two.

Becomes Religious

During these fourteen or fifteen years she had lived, raising her children and receiving the deep love of her husband all on herself, she had come to feel something strong in her.

She had felt the need of a strong spiritual support to live in this world where gossips and rumors still left her without peace. Even after years and months had passed, the people would not forget to look at her as a rebel's daughter.

It was not only the people. She herself would always recall the terrible shock she had received when she was twenty. However hard she tried to forget that she was a rebel's daughter, should the name Mitsuhide fall from anyone's lips, she would feel as though she were stabbed in her heart.

She wanted to be relieved from this suffering. How could she be a pleasant gentle wife to her husband? Then, too, she could never raise her children as a wise mother with such thoughts in her.

Garacia finally found the means of relief. That was religion. Unable to suppress this urge for a means of saving herself, she began going to the church below the Castle of Osaka. This was by no means an easy task, for the main and rear entrances were strictly guarded both day and night. Only through Oshimo could she manage to get out, disguised as a servant with a shawl covering her face.

Despite her great care, the rumor of her frequent visits to the church reached her husband's ears. Tadaoki, who was against this new religion, said harshly to her as he had about the orphans' house, "Stop this nonsense right away. You may not change your religion."

However Lady Garacia was not to be stopped so easily. Bowing low before her husband, she pleaded, "If this were a different matter, I would obey your words. But this, this religion is the pillar of my soul. Please let me keep it."

Tadaoki would not be moved.

"Have you forgotten?" Garacia entreated. "Have you forgotten about the night I was sent to Mount Mitono? You reprimanded me for trying to die instead of living strongly as a wife and mother. Your words have been carved deep into my heart, and I have tried to live strongly. This religion is what I have found to help me live strongly, to be the light and guide of my. . . ."

Before she could finish her words, Tadaoki shouted out, "Enough! If you like it that much, you can stick to your religion. Only do it out of my sight." and using his arm for his pillow, he lay down to sleep.

"Only do it out of my sight." These words of Tadaoki became the prophecy of fearful events that were to come years later.

Hideyoshi Passes Away

It was in July of the fifth year of the Keicho era. Hideyoshi had died and the world was ready for another great change. The war of Sekigahara was being brewed by Mitsunari Ishida and Kagekatsu Uesugi, who had planned to attack Ieyasu from east and west.

Tadaoki had sent his third son Tadayoshi to Yedo as a hostage and with his first and second sons, Tadataka and Okiaki, had joined the forces of Ieyasu at Utsunomiya.

It was during his absence. A messenger was sent by Mitsunari Ishida to the beautiful home of the Hosokawa family to take Garacia as a hostage. The three great warriors that were left by Tadaoki to guard the castle had expected Mitsunari to take such a step, but they had not expected it to come so soon. Mitsunari must have picked the Hosokawa Castle as his first prey.

Mitsunari had a great design in mind. Before opening the attack upon Ieyasu Tokugawa, he would take the wives of the Daimyos under Ieyasu as hostages. If he could succeed in this plan, he would equally succeed in causing unrest in Ieyasu's forces. This, too, was what Ieyasu had feared.

"Why, Mitsunari of all people. What an absurd thing he says." Hearing about the messenger from Oshimo, Garacia said smiling.

"Then aren't you going to the Osaka Castle?" Oshimo asked.

"Even you ask such a silly question. My husband has never been on good terms with Mitsunari from before. Besides, my husband and my children are now with the forces of Lord Tokugawa, who is the enemy of Mitsunari. How can I go to the Osaka Castle as Mitsunari's hostage I will not go even if my life is at stake."

The messenger exerted every means to persuade her to obey Mitsunari's command. However, she would not listen. Finally, after a week's persuasion, the messenger's patience was tried.

Threatens to Use Force

"Then I shall have to take you by force."

Hardly had he gone out with these words than the castle was surrounded by Mitsunari's forces. The three guards prepared themselves for an attack. However, one of them turned out to be a traitor and opened one of the gates to the enemy, from where the force came pouring in.

Seeing that they were overpowered the other two guards ran toward Garacia's chamber.

"The enemy is almost here. Please prepare yourself for your death". Their voices were hoarse and shaken.

Garacia showed no excitement. With her usual calm voice she said, "Let death come when it comes. Is that Iwami there? Or is it Shosai. Come in and help me go on my way to death."

"Step into your chamber? That I cannot do. Will your lady please come to the threshold?"

Garacia appeared in all white. On her breast was hung a golden crucifix. Her saintly figure reminded Shosai of the white figure that was frantically crying in the garden. For a short while she closed her eyes. Suddenly she opened her eyes.

"Has Oshimo escaped. And my lord's aunt and Tadataka's bride?"

"They are all gone." Shosai answered.

"Then I have nothing to worry."

Her eyes closed, Garacia raised her head. Her eyes opened for a moment, then blood red as roses spouted out of her breast and dyed her white robe into crimson. The dagger of Shosai had pierced through her heart.

The scheme of Mitsunari turned out to be a failure. The death of Garacia Hosokawa taught him that the wives of real samurai could not be put so easily under his power. He even feared that such attempts would only serve to strengthen the will of their husbands on the front.

Garacia then had sacrificed herself to prevent the many tragedies that were to arise in other castles.

After the war, Tadaoki Hosokawa was made the lord of Kokura in Buzen. Here in Kokura were built many chapels the existence of which were overlooked even after Ieyasu had opened oppressive measures against Christianity.

From twilight of July 16 of each year, the altar of the main church there was decorated with lighted candles and lovely flowers to commemorate the death of beautiful Garacia.

On that evening Tadaoki would appear before the altar with a glittering sword on his side and a crucifix on his breast. And he would give candies to the smelly children of the fishermen and dirty old women who flocked about him like flies.

After praying, he would walk silently to the pine grove on the beach where the lacquered palanquin would be waiting for him. With his heart heavy with an unutterable sorrow, he would be engrossed in beautiful memories of her, the saintly Garacia, who had meant so much to him.

Andaman Isles Formerly Had Penal Colony

Today, the Andaman Islands, together with Ceylon Island may hold the key to the destiny of India, and the independence movement which is gaining its momentum today may have a direct bearing upon the future importance of these tiny group of islands. The Imperial Forces, after the complete occupation of the Andaman Islands, are facing a great task before them in educating and civilizing the natives, but just as in the case of Malaya and Indonesians, these inhabitants will eventually fall in line with the spirit of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere ideal and will become the bulwark of the defenders to the entrance to the Indian Ocean.

Attracts Attention

The only information the world has had of these islands was that they were just exile islands, fitted only for the criminals and "inhabited by vicious savages who are jet black, absolutely uncivilized and eat men alive." This conception may run true to its form in some respects, but they are not so ferocious as they were imagined to be. Today about 500 of these "vicious" aborigines do inhabit the islands, but, although uncivilized as they are never harmful or cruel—if they are left alone. As a matter of fact these natives have their own philosophy of life and in general lead a very peaceful life. They are under no social restrictions, and men and women are very bright and merry in their own sphere of living and just as contended as the celebrated Balinese.

These group of islands, whose total length overall is 219 miles, with an extreme width of 32 miles, consist of 204 islands, lying 590 miles from the mouth of Hugli, 120 miles from Cape Negrais in Burma, and 340 miles from Sumatra. Between Andamans and Cape Negrais intervene two small groups known as Preparis and Cocos, and between Andamans and Sumatra lies still another group called Nicobar Islands. The main part consist of five islands, so closely adjacing and overlapping each other that they have been collectively called the "Great Andamans."

The derivation of the name is just as mysterious as the islands themselves. Marco Polo noticed the islands under the name of "Angamanain," seemingly an Arab dual "The two Nagamans," with exaggerated but not unnatural picture of the natives. Another notice occurs in the story of Nicolo Conti who explains the name to mean "Island of Gold." However, the name probably derived from the Malay Handuman, coming from the ancient Hanuman, meaning monkey.

Penal System

But be that as it may, the point of enduring interest is the penal system, which has been recently discontinued, the object of which was to turn the life-sentence and few long-sentence convicts, who alone were sent to the islands, into honest and self-respecting men and women by giving them every opportunity for reform. After 10 years of graduated labor, the convict was given a ticket-of-leave and became self-supporting by farming, grazing, marrying—but he could not leave the settlement or be idle. With approved conduct, however, he was absolutely released after 20 to 25 years of penal servitude, and though possessing no civil rights, he was as secure of obtaining justice as if free. In April 1940 the total population of these convicts, together with their families and relatives, numbered 21,000, and this number, excluding the aborigines, practically composed the entire population of the Andaman Islands.

The establishment of the penal colony was marked by persistent British efforts against the wishes of the native tribe who lost no chances in annihilating the invasion of the whites. One commisioner after another was murdered in cold blood, and it was not until 1858 that a commission appointed by Lord Canning, headed by Dr. F. Mouat, selected the present site of Port Blair as the ideal spot for a penal colony for convicts of India and Burma. In February, 1872, the islands gained tragic notoriety by the murder of the viceroy and the policy of let-alone adopted thereafter seemed to to have met with success as the natives did not bother the white brothers as long as the latter did not bother them.

Chief Product Is Timber

The chief product of the islands as a whole is timber, and the chief timber exported to foreign countries in padouk, which is highly valued for use in buildings, boats, furniture, fine joinery and all purposes to which teak and mahogany are applied. Other first class timbers are koko. white and black chuglam, marble or zebra wood and satin wood. Among the principal items of import are tea, Siberian coffee, cocoa, Ceara rubber, Manila hemp, teak, and cocoanut.

The Andamanese have their own orthodox religion, which consists of the wood, the sea diseases and ancestors, and the avoidance of acts traditionally displeasing to them. There is neither worship nor propitiation; the chief idea being that the soul will go somewhere after death but there is no heaven or hell, or idea of corporeal resurrection. The most direct and simplest thoughts are purely colloquial and sadly wanting in the modifications always necessary for communications by writing. All attempts, therefore, to civilize the Andamanese have met with complete failures, either among the adults or children.

It is refreshingly interesting to observe the peculiar characteristics of the Andamanese as compared with the natives of other Southern Islands. The average height of the male is only 4 ft. 10 inches, and of the females, 4 ft. 6 inches. Accustomed as they are to gratify every desire and instinct as it arises, they endure thirst hunger and bodily hunger and bodily discomfort very badly. The women's head are shaved entirely and men's into fantastic patterns, and both freely tattoo their bodies according to their original ideas. The male matures when about 15, marries when about 26, begins to age at 40 and lives on to 60—if he reaches that old age. Women marry earlier but they produce very few offsprings, sometimes none at all.

The Andamanese are indeed bright and merry companions, busy in their own pursuits, keen sportsmen, naturally independent and not lustful; but once angered they are cruel, jealous, treacherous and vindictive, and always unstable .. in fact a people to like but not to trust.

Now that these strategically valuable islands have passed into the hands of the Imperial Forces, their close proximity to Burma and India will be very advantageously utilized so that in the future we shall often hear the name of the Andaman Islands mentioned quite freely in the final outcome of the status of India—whatever it may be.

Nanga Painting

By Noted Peking Artist (Ueyeno Fine Arts Gallery)

Man-Eating Tigers Rampant in Malaya

(Continued from Page 6)

their lives. The fencing is constructed from the trunks of mangrove trees, which are water-plants that do not rot away as ordinary wood would if submerged for any length of time in water.

The capture of crocodiles is easier than is ordinarily imagined. A unique and original methods is to fish them out. All that is needed is a stout, hinged three-pronged steel hook, a coil of steel cable, a firmly rooted tree, and plenty of manpower. One end of the cable is would round a stout tree near the bank of a river infested with crocodiles, the other end is attached to the hook. On the hook is placed a lump of pork, and the bait is left in a suitable location. Since the prongs are hinged they lie flat along the main arm of the hook when passing down a crocodile's throat.

When the crocodile has innocently swallowed the bait, hook and all, it will wonder why an indigestible steel cable should stick out of its throat and stretch far up the bank of the river. If it tries to back away the tension on the cable will cause the prongs to fly open and the steel hook will imbed itself in the crocodile's flesh. This is where man-power comes in, and by hauling on the cable the crocodile can be drawn out of the water, and as it can't escape it can be shot to death. Moreover, if it struggles to escape, the hook will lacerate its vitals, and the saurian will die by itself without being shot.

Tradesmen Were Despised

The word "chonin" was applied to the tradesmen of the feudal days. At that time they were the most despised people in Japan. However, since the Meiji Restoration, their social position has been elevated by the industrial revolution.

Great Historical Work

Dai-Nihonshi is one of the most outstanding historical contributions to Japanese history. It was compiled under the eminent leadership of Mitsukuni, Lord of Mito and grandson of Tokugawa Iyeyasu. The work consists of 240 volumes.

Swords Made By Japanese Claimed Best

Much of the finest work of the Japanese metal worker is found in the two-handed swords, which were the chief weapon of the soldiers, and which, in feudal times, became the distinctive mark of the Samurai, the aristocratic military class, an authority on swords indicated.

The Japanese blades are unsurpassed by the most famous swords of Damascus, India, and Persia, and the craft of the swordsmith was looked on as the most honorable of all handicrafts. Men of aristocratic birth often took up its duties, and the famous swordmakers had the highest titles conferred upon them. The name of the greatest of them all—Masamune—passed into the language as a term signifying supreme excellence, for a Masamune blade was unequalled, and would sever a floating hair carried against its edge by the gentle current of a stream, or cleave through a solid bar of iron.

The sword, indeed, was the center of the old military life of Japan. To know its history, its etiquette, was part of the education of all Samurai youths, and it was a grand moment for them when, at the age of fifteen, they entered on man's estate and girded on the coveted weapon.

A fine sword was handed down from father to son as an heirloom; it was their most cherished possession, and especially in the more peaceful times which followed the establishment of the Tokugawa dynasty it was enriched with the finest work that art could produce.

The forging of a sword was conducted with almost the solemnity attending a religious rite. The swordsmith fasted for days before, and when all was prepared he went to the temple and prayed for a blessing on his work. In the forge was hung a consecrated rope of straw and clippings of paper to drive away evil spirits; and, having first propitiated the five elements—fire, water, wood, metal, and earth—the smith donned the ceremonial robes of a Court noble, and, binding back the wide sleeves, was ready to take hammer in hand.

Welding Difficult

First a strip of steel is welded to a bar of iron, which serves as a handle; other strips are placed upon it, and it is wrought into a bar of the required dimensions. Carefully coated with a paste of clay and ashes, and never touched with the naked hand, this bar is heated in the charcoal furnace, notched in the middle with a chisel, doubled over, and then beaten out to its former size and shape. This folding process is repeated 15 times, then four such bars are welded together, and the doubling and welding repeated five more times, so that if each bar consisted first of all of four flakes this has now been increased to 16,777,216 layers of metal. Many different textures are obtained by flattening the bar in different manners, some giving the appearance of a grain as in wood. The preparatory welding being finished, the blade is then drawn out to its full length, shaped, and roughly ground.

But the most critical part of the process, the tempering of the steel, is now to come. And the peculiar combination required—an extremely hard edge, with the rest of the blade soft and tough—the Japanese swordsmith, unlike others, produces in one operation instead of two.

The blade is coated with a mixture of fine clay and powdered charcoal. This covering is then scraped away along the edge, leaving exposed a strip of metal about a quarter of an inch wide. Raised in the furnace to the required heat, the blade glowing dull red while the edge is white hot, the sword is then plunged into a bath of water at a certain temperature, and the operation is finished.

The process of tempering was always conducted by the forger himself, no one else being allowed to enter the precincts of the forge, so jealously were his professional secrets guarded. It is said that a famous swordsmith paid for this knowledge by the loss of his hand. He had learned all but the heat of the tempering bath, and this vital secret his master refused to impart to him, so at the critical moment he burst into the forge and plunged his hand into the water. The furious master struck off his hand with one blow of the unfinished sword, but the apprentice had learned his secret.

Swordsmith's Songs

The old smiths used to sing while tempering a blade, and the spirit of the music was said to enter into the metal. Masamune chanted a refrain: "Tenku, tainei, taihei"—"Peace be on earth, peace"—and his swords never failed their owner, but always bore him to victory.

But the blades of his saturnine pupil Muramasa always brought trouble with them. Their owners were ever in quarrels, and, once unsheathed, the sword was never satisfied without blood, so that it could not even be handled with safety. The reason for this was that, as he tempered the blades, Muramasa sang grimly: "Tenku tairan, tenku tairan"—"Trouble in the world, trouble in the world."

After tempering, the blade was slowly ground on a series of whetstones, getting finer and finer, finishing with a careful polishing with stone-powder, and oil.

A volume might be written on the decoration of the sword. The tsuba or guard, the handle of the ko-katana or little knife, carried in the side of the scabbard; the fuchi and kashira, or mounts of the handle, especially were marked by the most exquisite ornamentation.

In his knowledge of the properties of different metals and their alloys, and in his combinations of these for one general effect, the Japanese metal worker is unique. Many of the alloys used by him were quite unknown to us, and were chosen chiefly for their colors. For the metal workers' designs were in reality color studies, and in metal he possessed a palette of really astonishing variety. For black he had shakudo, a rich, deep tint, flashing in some lights a violet blue. Oxidised iron gave a very dark brown, almost black, and also a rich chocolate color. Light browns, running from coffee color to saffron yellow, were obtained from different kinds of bronze. Copper gave a deep ruddy tint, coban and other combinations of gold and silver a pale greenish yellow, gold a rich, full yellow, shibu-ichi a dull grey, while white was obtained by the use of silver or polished steel.

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FOREIGN furniture, books, clothes, pianos, sewing machines, etc. at reasonable prices. Write or phone to George Yoshida Shoten, 66 Hommoku Sannotani, Yokohama, Tel. 2-6426, c/o Kamakuraya.

GOLF sets, binoculars, pianos, accordions, typewriters, electric refrigerators, washing machines, radios, furniture, safes, carpets, sewing machines. Matsumoto Shoten, 9 Agebacho, Ushigome-ku, Tel. Ushigome 34-3564.

GRAMOPHONES, records, electric gramophones, radio-gramophones pianos, organs, accordions, refrigerators, typewriters, cameras, vacuum cleaners, sewing machines, electric razors, foreign furniture new or used, wanted. Attractive prices paid. Please write or phone to Rhythm-sha, 16 Jimbo-cho Itchome, Kanda, Tokyo. Tel. Kanda 25-4459.

OIL paintings (originals or copies) of old European masters wanted by private party. Please apply Box 121, Japan Times, Tokyo.

PIANOS, electric refrigerators, furniture, carpets, safes, wanted at high prices. Especially attractive prices will be paid for pianos or electric refrigerators. Apply Shioda Shoten, 20, 2-chome, Kamidori, Shibuya-ku, or telephone to Aoyama 36-5837 and ask for Shioda.

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NEW TICKET SYSTEM ADVISED BY KATSUDA

Measures Suggested for Smoother Progress of National Savings

NINE POINTS IN SCHEDULE

Present Purchasing Method Apt To Stimulate Undercover Transactions

As a new measure for the smoother progress of the national savings encouragement campaign, for which the 1942 goal was set at ¥23,000,000,000, the adoption of the "purchasing power ticket system" is proposed by Teiji Katsuda, president of the Katsuda Economic Research Institute, in a contribution to the April 28 issue of the Yomiuri. According to his proposal, the diminishing system will be employed in the allotment of individual purchasing power. Mr. Katsuda emphasizes that this new method will be more efficient in the adjustment of the consumption of commodities than the point system of textiles and other daily necessities.

Will Not Use Drastic Measures

"The most efficient measure for the absorption of the purchasing power of the nation" says Mr. Katsuda "is the socalled 'compulsory savings system,' under which a certain portion of individual incomes is absorbed at the source and lent to the Government, but the authorities have no intention to resort to more drastic measures than the national savings encouragement movement. For this reason the national savings increase schedule for the 1942-3 fiscal year, generally speaking aims at the spontaneous cooperation of the people, although the allotment of bond purchase for monetary institutions is somewhat compulsory.

"The savings increase schedule consists of nine items, including (1) placing of national savings on a planned basis, (2) adjustment of the relation between the schedule and other economic policies of the Government, (3) firm establishment of the wartime living standard, (4) improvement of the functions of the people's savings associations, (5) renovation of the savings encouragement machinery, (6) strengthening of the absorption measures of floating money, (7) more clear understanding of the people of the current emergency confronting this country and (8) spurring of activities of the financial bodies.

Ticket System Emphasized

"I pointed out from time to time the necessity to enforce the purchasing power ticket system and this belief has been consolidated by the extension of the point rationing system to textiles. Since the difference of living standards among the people was not taken into consideration in the point method, the higher class runs short of points, while the financial condition of some classes is not so high as to purchase commodities to the allotted limit. This situation is apt to stimulate undercover transactions of the "points." People may be tempted to buy unnecessary goods in order to use the points to the limit.

"These defects will, however, be eliminated completely under the purchasing power ticket system. According to the system, everybody will be requested to report their yearly income and on the basis of this report the individual allotment of purchasing power decided by the authorities. As a reference I propose the following ratios:

"Monthly income	Pct. of purchasing power
Less than ¥50	100
¥51 to ¥100	90
¥101-¥200	85
¥201-¥300	80
¥301-¥400	75
¥401-¥500	70
¥501-¥600	65
¥601-¥700	60
¥701-¥800	55
¥801-¥900	50
¥801-¥1,000	45
¥1,001-¥2,000	30
¥2,001-¥3,000	20

"The strong points of this system are (1) the elimination of the defects of the commodities rationing system mentioned above, (2) prevention of tax-dodging (3) warning against the extravagant living of some people, (4) inevitable flow of the surplus money into the savings fields, and (5) the smoother sale of Government bonds.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX RISES ONLY SLIGHTLY

Survey Shows Some Gain for March Over June Preceding China Incident

The March wholesale price index on the basis of Decmber 13, 1929 stood at 186.7, showing an increase of only 0.2 per cent as compared with the February index, a survey by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry revealed, according to Domei.

The survey said, that the March index showed a gain of 8.3 per cent over March, 1941 and 53.3 per cent over June, 1937, just preceding the outbreak of the China Incident. Details follow:

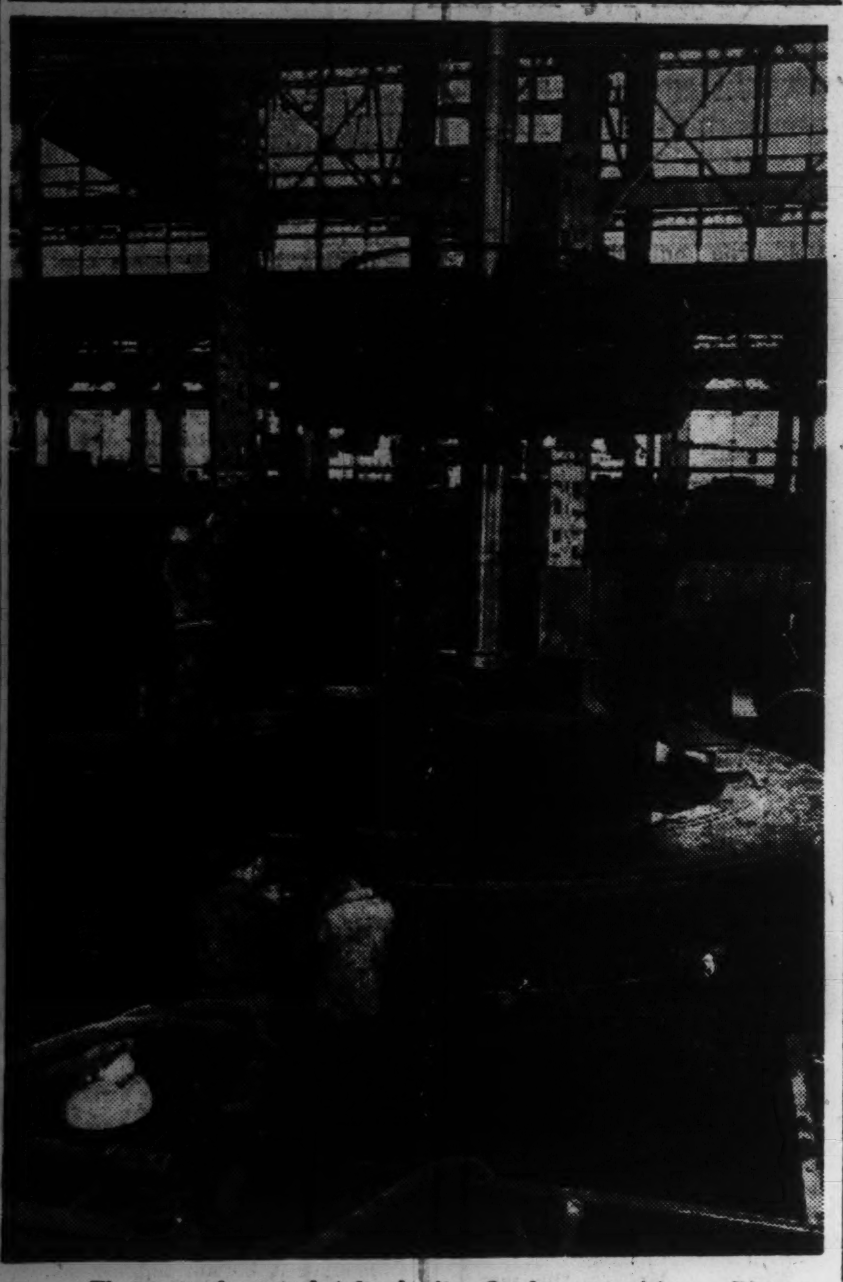
March Wholesale Price Indexes
(Dec. 13, 1929—100)

Items	March indices	Increase over Feb., 1942 (In pct.)	Increase over Mar., 1941 (In pct.)
Foodstuffs	180.6	0.2	3.2
Textiles	173.5	1.0	21.6
Metals	228.2	0.4	9.2
Buildings materials	202.7	0.8	6.6
Industrial chemicals	124.2	0.5*	0.8
Fertilizers	162.8	0.1*	0.4*
Fuel	157.0	1.8*	4.3
Miscellaneous	190.7	0.2*	1.3
Total average	186.7	0.2	8.3

Note:—(*) denotes decrease.

Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan today reported the retail price index in Tokyo on April 15 remained stationary at 260.2 on the basis of July, 1914, as compared with the previous month with foodstuffs standing at 274.0, light and fuel at 304.0, clothing materials at 230.0 and miscellaneous items at 281.0.

Precision is the Word



The test of a steel tube is its flawless precision. Picture shows giant machines at work turning out a perfect cylinder whose usefulness for innumerable purposes can readily be imagined.

RAILWAYS INDUSTRY ATTAINS TOP NOTCH

Now in a Position to Supply Needed Rolling Stock Even For Southern Regions

Blessed by the many years of protection extended by the Railways Ministry, the rolling stock industry of this country has not only reached the world level, but also is in a position to extend its activities to the southern regions, states the Oriental Economist (Japanese edition) in surveying the history of the industry.

In 1896 the Locomotive Manufacturing Company was established in Osaka and the Japan Rolling Stock Manufacturing Company came into existence in Nagoya. The former company manufactured the first locomotive in this country in July, 1899 and the next year the company completed the first Abt system railway locomotive, the manufacture of which was considered the most difficult from a technical viewpoint.

Railways Board Established

The establishment in 1906 of the policy of state-management of railways was a stimulant to the development of the rolling stock industry of this country. According to the policy established, the Railways Board was instituted and all the private railway companies were placed under the supervision of the Railways Board.

With its establishment, the Railways Board took measures for the unified standardization of rolling stock and their parts, while efforts were continued for making the rolling stock industry of this country independent of foreign countries. For the protection of the industry, a big raise was made on the import duty on locomotives in 1909. Under these protective policies the Japanese rolling stock industry made rapid strides with a result that rolling stock of every description was gradually manufactured.

Rolling Stock Firms

Surveying the rolling stock industry situation of this country, the journal further states, most prominent companies are the Japan Rolling Stock Manufacturing Company, the Locomotive Manufacturing Company, the Kawasaki Rolling Stock Manufacturing Company, the Tanaka Rolling Stock Manufacturing Company and the Imperial Rolling Stock Manufacturing Company. And in addition to the above companies, the Tokyo Shibaura Electric Machine Company, the Mitsubishi Electric Machine Company and the Tokyo Electric Machine Company are noted for the manufacture of electric locomotives and their parts.

With these companies playing an active part in the rolling stock industry, this country is in a position to supply amply rolling stock needed for railways in the southern regions now being placed under the control of this country to whatever extent the demand may rise, concludes the journal.

U.S. SHARES SLUMP DUE TO TAX INCREASE

Japan Shows Fair and Comfortable Gains in Industries Since China Affair Outbreak

The difference between the Japanese and American attitude toward the Greater East Asia War is clearly reflected in the movements of share prices in Tokyo and New York, the Chugai Shogyo pointed out Monday.

During the past few months in the United States, the paper continued, steel shares slumped by more than 11 per cent while industrials dropped by nearly 20 per cent. On the other hand in Japan, not only munitions industries, but peace industries recorded "fair and comfortable" gains since the outbreak of the China Affair.

U.S. Tax Increase

The Chugai said that the decline in American share prices is partly attributable to the tax increase by the Washington Administration. However, it was pointed out that the increase in taxes itself has been made necessary by the American reverses in the Greater East Asia War.

Pointing out that Britain now is fast on her way toward complete collapse and the United States is faced with many economic defects and weaknesses, the journal warned the people not to underestimate the fighting strength of the Anglo American Powers, and at the same time, not to commit the blunder of overestimating their power.

The paper declared that the movement of share prices in Japan and the United States would offer an interesting analysis of the psychological trend of the Japanese and American peoples toward the war. The share price movement, the Chugai said, well reflects the resolve and determination of the peoples of Japan and the United States.

Comparative Figures

The paper quoted the following figures for comparison:

Movement of Share Prices in Japan
(Quotations in Yen)

	Before China Incident	Mid-April (1942)	Increase or decrease
Total average	76.95	85.78	Up 8.83
Average of Bank Shares	144.62	115.63	Down 28.99
Average of Commercials	76.85	87.79	Up 10.94
Stock - Exchange Shares	104.49	125.82	Up 21.33
Average of Industrials	68.97	82.67	Up 12.70
Machinery & Shipbuilding	69.76	91.09	Up 21.33
Chemicals	59.53	73.19	Up 13.66
Iron & other Metals	61.43	78.78	Up 17.35
Mining & Petroleum	60.94	69.98	Up 9.04
Transportation & Communications	74.66	82.40	Up 7.74
Power	52.05	54.86	Up 2.81
Ceramics	50.20	53.73	Up 3.53
Rubber	49.88	66.84	Up 16.96
Foodstuffs	88.20	98.83	Up 10.63
Investments & Development	55.05	63.80	Up 8.75
Others	74.58	91.92	Up 17.34

Note: Before China Incident means average for the first six months of 1937: Mid-April means average for week ending April 18.

Movement of Share Prices in U.S.
(Quotations in Dollars)

Steel Shares:—	
Dec. 6, 1941	52 ¼
February end, 1942	51 ⅝
March end, 1942	49 ½
April 25, 1942	46 ⅜
Industrials:—	
Dec. 5, 1941	115.90
February end, 1942	106.79
March end, 1942	99.53
April 25, 1942	94.31

U.S. WAR INDUSTRY PROGRESSING LITTLE

Auto Manufacturers Not in Favor of Changing Factories to Munitions

What with the difference of opinion between the Washington authorities and the motor-car manufacturers, coupled with the defensive war of C.I.O., the change of the automobile industry in the United States into a war industry is making but very little progress, says the Diamond, a widely circulated trade periodical, quoting the Economist of London. Excerpts follows:

Despite the fact that the automobile industry of the United States was faced with the necessity of having to switch over to war production since two years ago, practically little or no progress has been made so far toward this end, chiefly due to the strong inclination of the large manufacturers, to continue the easy way of making money by meeting the public demand to which they are accustomed, in order to avert the technical difficulties incumbent in turning over their plants to war production, according to the Diamond which goes on:

Labor Union Demands Change

The United Automobile Labor Union which belongs to the C.I.O. demanded the change of the automobile industry to turn out war materials with the utilization of the greater portion of the already existing factory equipment and continued employment of the present workers for the purpose of avoiding unemployment as much as possible, and took the stand that this was technically quite possible. On the other hand, the automobile manufacturers were not inclined to switch the whole industry to turn out war products in view of the fact that the total amount of war orders received up to the summer of 1940 reached only $300,000,000, while the total amount of orders received for public demand aggregated $5,000,000,000 during the same period.

Furthermore, the automobile manufacturers preferred to build new factories for war production on the ground that it would be technically very difficult to turn more than 5 or 10 per cent of the existing factory equipment into war production owing to the fact that in the past few years rationalization of factory facilities were effected to the highest degree. The Washington authorities also agreed to this view.

Business as Usual

In this manner throughout the state of Michigan Chrysler's tank factory, Packard aero-engines and Ford heavy bomber factories were built, while their old plants continued to manufacture cars and trucks for the public, and the "business as usual" period continued for over a year.

It was in the latter part of 1941, especially in September, that the 1,067 automobile manufacturers, both large and small, were actually faced with the absolute necessity of transforming themselves into war factories. With the United States aid-Britain policy getting under way, war orders began to increase, and in September 1941 the total amount of war orders reached $3,500,000,000. At the same time, the public demand for cars and trucks increased in proportion to the increases in war demand, and in August 1941 the total sales of cars and trucks to the public reached the all-time high of 3,588,000 cars.

In consequence of this, a shortage of necessary materials arose and the American Government was forced to restrict the manufacture of cars and trucks for public demand so as to secure sufficient materials for war purposes.

Unemployment Caused

Accordingly, the Washington authorities concentrated 53 per cent of their war orders to 13 automobile manufacturers at the end of 1941, instead of 75 per cent to 56 manufacturers as was done up to the summer of 1941, with the result that the small and medium scale manufacturers were compelled either to turn their factories into war production or to shut down. This produced a great deal of unemployment. On the other hand, large manufactures on whom war orders were concentrated could not build up their new war factories in time and they have had to utilize their old factories.

In order to defend themselves against unemployment, the automobile workers demanded permission to have a voice in the transfer of automobile factories into war factories through the C.I.O., which demand was accepted by the now defunct Office of Production Management. However, the manufacturers opposed this on the ground that allowing workers to have a voice in the matter would lead to socialization of industry.

It was only with the advent of this year that the change of the automobile industry in the United States into war production began to make any headway due to the restrictions placed by the Government on the sales of cars and trucks for public use.

Will Double Capital

With the object of expanding mining facilities necessary for the increased output of coal, the Mishan Coal Mining Company in Manchoukuo has decided to double the present authorized capital of ¥100,000,000 to ¥200,000,000 at the extraordinary meeting of shareholders held at the Tokyo branch office on April 27, it was reported by the Miyako Tuesday.

Bank of Japan Accounts

March 28
(In ¥1,000)

Note Issues	5,248,784
Deposits	628,250
Loans	389,601

Refusing All Offers of High Positions Baron Goh Climbed Up in Financial World

(Continued From Yesterday)

"The late Baron Goh was born in a good family, but in his childhood was an uncontrollably naughty boy and in his youth committed many excesses. However, once out in the world, he climbed up, no one knows when, to the top position in the financial circles and held it to the last. This feat was accomplished, no doubt, by his sagacity and his character, but a much greater reason must lie behind all this. There are many who hold the same or higher peerage than the late Baron Goh; there are many who are in possession of greater wealth than he, but most of them are not spotlighted. Even from this viewpoint alone his life and value are worthy of study.

"In the first place, he did not have the slightest self-interest. Throughout his life he considered and acted in the interests of the nation. In the second place, he strictly confined his activities to the financial and industrial world. Most people would crave after the portfolio of a State Minister, and, although he was asked twice to fill the post of a State Minister, he emphatically declined the offer. In his later life he was approached in regard to becoming a member of the Privy Council, but this too he refused to accept. The reason given for his refusal was that as he had built up for himself a place in financial circles, he would like to continue there till his death, for he felt that that would be the best way for him to serve the cause of the nation.

"There are many people in financial circles who are anxious to seek high Government positions and strive to enter the peerage, but he stuck to the financial and industrial circles, and that is doubtlessly the chief reason that he stood out over and above all others. In the third place, he subordinated all private interests to national interests, which may be counted as the greatest factor for his brilliant success.

Human Side of the Baron

"As a man he was of dignified appearance and noble bearing. Whenever he was offered a place of honor at a banquet, unhesitatingly he would take it with a nod, which was entirely natural. He started his career as president of a company, not having experienced the trials of a wage-earner nor did he ever have to feel any diffidence or constraint before others, and that might have accounted for his free and easy manner. In his boyhood and youth he sowed the average amount of wild oats, and knew the ins and outs of worldly affairs.

"That was why he had a large store of topics in his head. At dinner parties or other gatherings, he was always the center of conversation and always enlivened the atmosphere. He was also a good listener. Many people who know how to talk are poor listeners, but he was both a clever talker and good listener. He knew the art of how to make other people speak. It was on this account that he was considered the best chairman in financial and industrial circles.

"The impression one got from his features was solemnity itself, but, on the other hand, he had the frankness and simplicity of an out-and-out Tokyoite, and he would put all his cards on the table, which very often served to make a friend out of his foe.

His Boyhood

"Born in Gifu, he was brought to Tokyo by his parents when he was two years old and at school age went to the Bancho Primary School. He was a naughty boy and a source of constant trouble to his parents and a nightmare to the neighborhood. One day he hurled a stone at a neighbor's dog which he hated because the beast barked at him unprovoked whenever he was within its sight. Unfortunately, the throw proved fatal, but the 'little criminal' returned home looking as innocent as anyone could be, although the poor creature's owner filed a strong protest with his father. The 'murder' was out at last.

"An angry father tied the boy to a tree in the garden and gave him a good thrashing, but at heart he wanted the boy to admit his wrong and apologize, so that he could release him, but the latter would not utter a word, and his father had to suffer the humility of letting him go without being able to extract any apology from his stubborn son.

Out In the World

"Pondering over the future of his son, the father decided to let the boy have a taste of the world, because he thought it would do no good to pamper him. Thirteen-year old Seinosuke was then consigned to his father's friend in Sendai where he attended a middle school. At that early age he began to frequent gay quarters mixing with older delinquents to the utter astonishment and dismay of his consignee who at once reported to the boy's father on the misbehavior of his son. To keep him out of mischief, it was finally decided to put him in the dormitory of the school; but there was no end to his gallantry and debauchery. His consignee did not know what to do with the fire-eater, and at the age of 15 the little devil was again sent back to his home in Tokyo.

(To Be Continued)

GOOD BUSINESS SEEN IN SPOT SILK MART

Daily Turnovers Range Between 600 and 700, Prices Advancing Steadily

Special to Japan Times and Advertiser

YOKOHAMA, April 27.—Good business was maintained on the spot raw silk market last week with daily turnovers ranging between 600 and 700 bales at prices advancing steadily ¥5 to $7.50 over the week, which closed at ¥1,505 or ¥1,507.50 for yellow 13/15 deniers, grade D; at ¥1,425 or ¥1,427.50 for yellow 20/22 deniers, grade A and at $1,460 or ¥1,462.50 for white 20/22 deniers, grade A.

The demand grew brisker daily and extended more and more to the higher grades as a result of the scarcity of the common grades, caused by the digestion of the daily arrivals almost entirely. The futures market kept up a strong tone over the week. On Friday the prices rose 2 to 7 sen all round, the August position closing at ¥15.62, being the highest on record since the beginning of this year.

From the total arrivals at Yokohama and Kobe during the first twenty days of April, 152 bales dropped off from the same period of March, with 15,993½ bales, according to the Yokohama Raw Silk Merchants' Guild returns. A steady falling off is expected within the current silk year as a result of cocoon quota having been already used up by the reelers.

Demand Increasing

Considering the present satisfactory condition of actual requirements from the interior, the future supply and demand position is very bullish. In fact, the stocks in both ports are being reduced daily and were only 32,080½ bales on the 23rd as against 34,442½ bales held about two weeks ago, showing a decrease of a little less than 2,400 bales. This is ascribed to increased re-shipments to the interior in contrast to decreased arrivals, reflecting improved domestic consumption. The same conditions, if kept up for a time to come, are thought as diminishing the stocks to less than 30,000 bales at no far distant date.

Frozen silk is likely to be placed on sale on April 30, as the Yokohama Raw Silk Merchants' Guild is holding an extraordinary general meeting on the 28th, when the matter will be taken up for discussion.

At a general meeting of the Yokohama Raw Silk Exchange brokers, held on the 21st, it was decided to alter the weekly control limits of price changes to 20 sen up and down, or to 40 sen in total, commencing this week.

A great invention is reported, calculated to bring about a revolution in the reeling of silk. It has to do with the chemical treatment of cocoons for reeling silk, instead of boiling them as hitherto. The inventor is Yoshimori Seki, a sectional chief of the Tokuyama Works Laboratory of the Nippon Yushi Seizo K. K., who has worked out the process, which produces raw silk of a better quality than that obtained by the existing cocoon boiling system, with considerable economy in cost and fuel. Raw silk wound by the process is 850 to 900 meters in length as against about 700 meters by the usual method even at 100 per cent sericin fixation, and there is almost no loss in the silk yield, on account of which the production of raw silk may be increased at least by 10 per cent. If this new process is adopted generally in the raw silk industry, the present total cost of production of raw silk may be saved by about ¥80,000,000. The same company has succeeded in inventing a process of reeling silk from single cocoons, too, adds the news, for silk as substitute for wool, without using formaline and chrome. According to this process, about 20 kwamme of cocoons may be reeled daily as against 2 or 3 kan by other methods.

Points Out Uses

Speaking through the Chugai Shogyo, Count Yorihisa Matsudaira, president of the Central Raw Silk Association of Japan, points out two conditions for making silks more serviceable for practical uses then at present, one being an improvement in quality and the other the lowering of price. The sudden change in the international situation has made raw silk not only the mainstay of national textile materials but the chief fiber material in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. It is not exactly known how much textile materials are produced in the southern sphere. Considering, however, that large quantities of textiles had been supplied there by Britain, America and other countries in the past, it would be uneasy to fill in the gap. Of raw cotton, silk, staple, rayon, hemp, etc. of fiber resources, Japanese silk is the only one, the production of which can be most accurately counted on. It may be supplied to the Co-Prosperity Sphere either as pure silk or as mixtures with rayon or staple fiber, after catering to domestic needs.

To meet the requirements of quality, concerted efforts are being put forth for the production of raw silk more serviceable for practical purposes by silkworm, cocoons and raw silk men. Recently, healthier silkworm eggs have been produced, the production of cocoons having more silk has been advanced and short cocoon fiber and silk-wool silk have appeared, all of which bespeak progress in the art of sericulture for more practically serviceable purposes.

The reeling of silk is shifting from fine sizes for export to coarse sizes for strong textile weaving, which means the production of raw silk for more practical purposes, too. As to the question of price, all silkmen are making strenuous exertions for reducing the cost of production, which is the shortest way of selling good qualities at cheap prices. The sericultural by-products have been brought into better use as another means of lowering the cost of production, and more importance is attached to the use of pupas and mulberry-twigs, concludes Count Matsudaira.

BULL RUSH STAGED ON STOCK EXCHANGE

Hitler's Promise of Victory Joyfully Received by Market Dealers

Well-receiving the Reichstag speech by Chancellor Adolf Hitler in which he promised to gain the eventual victory over Britain and America, dealers on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Tuesday rushed to bull almost all listed wares. Owing to the liquidations of the shorts, Tokyo Exchange, new, skyrocketed to ¥133.50 in the short term section which shows a remarkable rise of ¥1.80 in comparison with ¥131.70 for late Monday afternoon.

In the long-term section, noteworthy was a strong buying sentiment on mining industrials. Iwai Colliery stepped up ¥1.90, Iriyama Colliery ¥1.80, its new ¥1.80, Mitsubishi Mining ¥1.00, Toho Colliery ¥0.70 and Hokkaido Colliery ¥0.80. The bright prospect of the industry which has been foreshadowed by the higher coal prices and the priorities in the distribution of labor and equipment is understood chiefly to be responsible for the upward swing.

Among other wares in the long-term section, a gain of ¥1.70 was seen in Nichiro Fishery, ¥1.00 in Kita-Karafuto Oil, ¥0.70 in Teikoku Rayon, new, ¥0.80 in Asano Cement and ¥0.30 in its new. A selective buying tendency appeared in fiber issues. Teikoku Staple Fiber, new, moved upward ¥0.80 and Nichiman Flax ¥0.70.

In the short-term section, Tokyo Exchange, new, rose from ¥132.30 for early Tuesday morning to ¥133.50 at the end of the afternoon session, N.Y.K. ¥105.30 to ¥106.60, its new ¥90.70 to ¥91.10, Kanegafuchi Spinning ¥154.40 to ¥155.50 and its new ¥98.60 to ¥99.80.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's morning session were:

	Clos.	May	June
First Section			
Fuji Spinning (50)			66.4
Kanegafuchi Sp (50)			153.6
Do, new (25)			99.9
Tei'ku Rayon n (37½)			89.9
Tokyo Rayon (50)			40.0
Toyo Rayon, new (50)			74.0
Ensuiko Sugar (50)			63.6
Second Section			
N. Y. K. (50)		105.4	....
O. S. K. (50)		97.5	....
Do, new (37½)			96.0
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)			82.9
Do, new (25)		54.0	54.3
Uraga Dock (50)		96.6	97.5
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)		106.9	89.1
Hitachi Works (50)			73.9
Third Section			
S. M. R. (50)		71.8	71.4
Japan Fat (50)		68.3	66.9
Japan Automobile Ind.		73.2	74.1
Ikegai Automobile Ind.		65.9	65.1
Toyo Ball-Bearing		82.1	83.0
Kotobuki Heavy Ind.		60.8	61.4
Japan Piston Ring		78.9	79.6
Furukawa Elec. Ind.			116.7
Mitsubishi Machinery		117.9	118.7
Japan Carbon		84.2	82.9
Japan Soda (25)		37.7	38.1
Japan Oil (50)			77.9
Karafuto Oil (50)			50.9

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	107.10	107.10	107.10	107.10
Second 5%	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.05
First 4%	102.95	102.95	102.95	102.95

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Stock, new	133.3	133.5	133.1	133.5
N. Y. K., old	105.9	106.7	105.9	106.6
N. Y. K., new	91.2	91.6	91.2	91.6
Kanegafuchi Spin.	155.4	155.7	155.1	155.5
Do, new	99.6	99.8	99.5	99.8
Teikoku Rayon, n.	91.8	91.9	91.6	91.7
Osaka Stock, new	72.8	72.9	72.8	72.9
Japan Steel Tube	74.4	74.9	74.4	75.0
Japan Oil	79.4	79.9	79.4	79.1
S M. Railway	71.9	72.0	71.9	72.2
Mitsubishi Heavy	106.5	106.9	106.5	107.0
Hitachi Works	73.9	74.1	73.9	74.3
Japan Mining	60.2	60.3	60.1	60.1
Manchurian Ind.	59.7	59.9	59.9	59.9

TO DISPATCH MEN SOUTH FOR RAW COTTON RESEARCH

For Cultivation Development Plans Officers Will Go to Taiwan for Investigation

In accordance with the decision reached regarding the raw cotton cultivation in the southern regions, the Raw Cotton Development Association has decided to dispatch Taizo Taya, an association member, and Ichiro Kawaguchi, a director of the Japan Federation of Spinners' Associations, to the southern regions, according to the Miyako Tuesday.

In addition to Mr. Taya, an association member and the federation director Kawaguchi who are to be stationed on the spot, Jun Minakawa, of the planning department of the Federation is to be dispatched by the association to conduct investigations on the raw cotton situation.

In connection with the association's raw cotton cultivation scheme, the Japan Federation of Spinners' Associations will detail its officers to Taiwan to conduct research work on miscellaneous fibers, it is further reported by the paper.

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	133.5	+ 1.80
N.Y.K., new, short-term	91.6	+ .90
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	99.8	+ .20
Government bond, Kogo 5s	107.1	Same

P.I. ELECTRIC INDUSTRY TO BE UNDER JAPANESE FIRM

One American and One National Policy Company to Come Under New Management

It has been decided to place part of the electric industry in the Philippines under the management of a Japanese corporation on a commission basis, reports the Nikkan Kogyo Shinbun Monday quoting a dispatch from the branch office in Taihoku.

The Manila Electric Company and the State-managed Motive Power Company are occupying the most important positions in the electric industry in the Philippines. The Manila Electric Company is an American company with a capitalization of $26,000,000 with its head office on Broadway, New York. The enterprise of the company consists of the electric light, streetcar, and bus services. The State-managed Motive Power Company is one of the national policy companies established by the Philippine Government for the development of water power resources in the islands. The company is capitalized at 10,000,000 pesos, adds the dispatch.

Bill Clearings

March 28
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	299,668	190,858
Balance	61,118	30,878

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TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1942

Imperial Birthday

The Japanese Empire today joins in celebration of the 41st birthday of His Majesty the Emperor. It is the annual event of the Empire through which its one hundred millions renew the sense of loyalty by which their destiny is bound for all time. It is the occasion on which they all rejoice in the deep consciousness of the great purpose in which they stand united as never before. As the whole nation raise their voices in singing the national anthem which is to be sung through the ages until "even a pebble is to grow into a moss-covered giant rock," their minds must be filled with exhilarating thoughts of their national destiny being embedded in eternity, lasting as time and immutable as heaven itself. What other nation on earth can share such sentiment on any day of its life?

The magnificent joy that is experienced today by the Japanese nation is part of the very tradition of their Empire. It has been always their happy lot to be able to assemble on this day of the year and confirm their faith in the great cause of duty, than which none can be nobler or loftier. But the thought that rises uppermost in the minds of the nation on this particular day is somewhat different from what was experienced this day one year ago. This change in national thought is due to the change which has been wrought in less than a year, in less than even six months, throughout East Asia.

This is the first time that the nation celebrates His Imperial Majesty's birthday after taking up arms in the War of Greater East Asia. When the Empire observed the national holiday one year ago, it faced the prospect of a new order for China. Japan then was involved in large scale hostilities in China since more than three years ago. The cause Japan had taken up was that of construction—the construction of a new order of peace and happiness over that part of the Asiatic continent which should never have been torn apart by internal strife or deadly suspicion.

The situation that Japan today faces is far different. The war that her people now wage under their supreme leader is dedicated to even greater purposes. Arms were taken up against those countries which had contrived and endeavored to keep down the peoples of East Asia. The war is being conducted with the clear aim of assuring that condition of mutual prosperity which should be the legitimate claim of all peoples in these quarters of the world. Seldom in history has the sword of justice been taken up in a nobler cause.

Millions of the Japanese Army today press their fronts in many parts of East Asia so that the inhabitants may become free from those organized minds and collective efforts which would keep them down in servile or shameful servitude. Mighty fleets of the Japanese Navy today sail out far on the sea to destroy or ward off those craft which only sailed these waters to carry off the fruits of Asia's labor. These undertakings may be severely trying and very costly in human lives and gold, but the Japanese nation is more than glad to make such sacrifices, for it knows that they are a modest price to pay for the true happiness of all East Asia.

When the din of war cries has died down and the powder smoke rolled off, there will no doubt be more widespread appreciation of the cause Japan has taken up in the present war. And when the true situation has been brought out in the light of day, the position of the Japanese Empire will appear more clearly in the eyes of all the peoples of East Asia. In the same hour the truth of the Imperial Virtue by which the Empire is guided must become clear to them all. In the same happy hour must become lucid the meaning of the Imperial saying that the aim of Imperial rule is to enable all peoples to find and secure for themselves their respective proper places in the world.

It is very happy to note that on this very day the happiness of the Japanese nation is being shared by a country which was recently brought within the sphere of co-prosperity through the success of Japanese arms. We learn that the four major national holidays of Japan are henceforth to be celebrated in the Philippines. His Imperial Majesty's birthday is the first to be marked as a red-letter day in the national calendar of those southern islands.

It is indeed encouraging to note that such a sign of spontaneous joy and happiness has been brought into the life of people so far away from these shores. It gives a new light of hope which has not illuminated the history of East Asia for many ages. This light, as it gains in brightness, must show more clearly the way for the peoples who are to share prosperity in one sphere bound by regional affinity. Then these people will be able to follow such a purpose as never brought them together in their histories.

It has been said that the War of Greater East Asia has turned a new page in the history of East Asia. Its significance must be seen in the first light of friendly affinity that streams out of the murky clouds of war. This light brings thoughts of happiness to all those who are united in celebration of this auspicious day which marks a happy turn in the development of the sphere of co-prosperity on which East Asia sets its heart. The people of the Japanese Empire have never celebrated their national holiday with more generous hearts or with a more hopeful outlook. This situation well confirms them in their determination to carry out what they have set out to accomplish to shape the true destiny of East Asia.

Flora of Thailand

In its flora and fauna Thailand combines the forms of Burma and the Shan States with those of Malaya and Cambodia. The coast region is characterized by mangroves, Pandanus, rattans and similar palms; the central region by rice fields, coconut and areca palms, and tropical economic plants; the temperate uplands of the interior are forested and contain some Himalayan and Japanese species—oaks, pines, chestnuts, peach and apple trees, raspberries, honeysuckle, vines, saxifrages, Cichoraceae, anemones and Violaceae; there are many valuable timber trees—teak sappan, eagle-wood, wood,-oil (Hopea), and other Dipterocarpaceae, Cedrelaceae, Pterocarpaceae, Xylia, ironwood and other dye-woods and resinous trees, these last forming in many districts a large proportion of the more open forests with an undergrowth of bamboo. The chief products of the plains are rice (the staple export), pepper, sirip, sago, sugar cane, coconut, betal, palmyra or sugar and attap palms; banana, udrian, pommelo, guava, bread fruit, mango, pineapple, custard apple, mangosteen and other fruits.

The Races of Sumatra

Arabs, Chinese and Indians of many races have long been settlers round the coast, where, also, there were Hindu-Javanese colonies, and the mixture of blood which has resulted, and European contact, has given a much higher civilization than that which prevails in the interior where the Hindu-Javanese influence was little felt in many regions, and even Islamic culture failed to penetrate, leaving the people in their ancient state of animistic barbarism. Many of the indigenous tribes of the interior are still in a state of development comparatively low, but simple education is spreading, barbarous customs are disappearing rapidly, lack of clothing is giving place to garments of Malayan style, a higher standard of living is beginning to assert itself, also improved methods of agriculture.

A Year Ago Today

April 29, 1941

From the Files of Japan Times & Advertiser

The strike phobia spread from the United States to Canada, as the labor situation in Eastern Canada assumed an increasingly serious aspect. It was learned that officials of the Government and Labor Department prepared a meeting with leaders of the labor groups as the result of the resignation of two high labor representatives of the Government Labor Supply Board.

Meanwhile, the strike situation was aggravated by a new walkout of 2,700 employes of the National Steel Car Company at Hamilton, Ontario, who struck in protest against the company's reinstatement of a head of the local union. The Peck Rolling Mills at Montreal, on the other hand, continued to remain closed with 324 men striking for higher wages. Sympathy strikes were also reported looming among Nova Scotia steel workers.

Declaring "we didn't want Italian ships carrying bombs to England to bomb our people," the Italian Naval Attache at Washington, Umberto Lais, defended the action of Italian crews in damaging their ships in United States harbors.

Lais was accompanied to the pier by a special guard before his departure for Italy. He had been declared persona non grata to the United States and requested by the State Department to leave, after the U.S. Coast Guards seized 28 Italian ships in United States harbors and allegedly found 25 of them had been damaged.

Establishment of the Chemical Warfare Inspection Headquarters in the Inspectorate-General of Military Education was announced by the War Ministry. Simultaneously, it was learned that the post of commandant of the newly created headquarters was to be occupied by Lieut.-General Machijiri. The establishment of the Chemical Warfare Inspection Headquarters, which was launched early in March, marked a further step toward the completion of the program to strengthen the army by modernizing its various arms.

GERMANY EXTENDS AID TO EUROPEAN INDUSTRY

Increased Output on Continent Planned to Meet Demand

Volkischer Beobachter

Dealing with the future tasks of German economy in Europe we shall here follow two distinct lines which rival Germany's domestic aims as far as territorial planning is concerned.

(1.) The total capacity of industry and trade as determined by wishes of national territorial planning must be tested with a view to ascertaining what will be German industry and not be shifted to other areas. It is impossible now to estimate the extent of this production. One thing is certain, however, that it will continue to take precedence over all other tasks.

(2.) An increase in the European agricultural efficiency demands a corresponding expansion of industrial production. This will be one of the first tasks under the new conditions in order to secure the life of the European peoples even though overseas trade should again become possible. The German institute of economic research recently calculated in billions what the equipment of villages in Germany would require in industrial products. When planning the development of the Southeast of Europe and other territories in the East which are important as sources of food supplies, corresponding estimates would have to be made, be it with regard to the demand for fertilizer, agricultural machines and equipment or for the construction of works, necessary to the expansion of communications and transport. It remains to be seen to what extent such a plan can be carried out by the countries concerned where for the most part industry is not well developed. At any rate we may assume that, with German help, an increase in the industrialization of these provinces will take place.

Industrialized Countries

Moreover it is not at all unlikely that the change in agrarian conditions now proceeding in the Western and Northern European countries may likewise demand Germany's industrial aid. It is a characteristic feature of such conditions and has been proved by experience that an increase in agricultural yields keeps pace with an increase in industrialization. All European countries with large yields of wheat and potatoes per acre are highly industrialized countries.

(3.) An extension of the supply of power appears imperative for the whole of the European industry. The manufacture of new materials, such as cell wool, rayon, buna, synthetic petrol and light metals, requires great amounts of electric energy. Even now in wartime when consumption is throttled, it is already obvious that Europe's power supply which is mainly based on coal, although adequate for wartime needs, would never be sufficient as a basis for industrial changes on a large scale. A better utilization of Europe's water power is an urgent demand, therefore. The economic history of every country in the world proves that a new economic phase is introduced whenever new sources of energy are created.

Here too one may certainly expect an increased demand on industry. This would first of all give rise to a question as to the total capacity desired for German industry. The increased output in the above-mentioned fields of activity can only be reached by throttling other industrial achievements or by shifting them to other districts. Territorial and industrial planning should keep in view that an appreciable increase in output is not possible insofar as labor and working hours are concerned. It remains to be seen to what extent technical progress and organization can still increase efficiency. The result of all calculations hitherto made is that the increase in the technical productivity of an industrial country per annum is very small, so that in any case it would be out of proportion to the extensive new problems that have to be solved at short notice.

Increased output, reached by favoring big enterprises, is of dubious value, especially from the standpoint of territorial planning. From the point of view of national economy, too, this is frequently a miscalculation, because social political expenses, especially the cost of new settlements, have not been sufficiently taken into consideration. The only other possibility, that of engaging foreign labor to an exces-

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AUSTRALIA CONFRONTED WITH MOUNTING TROUBLE AT HOME

Curtin Government Meets Internal Opposition at Odds; Hard to Expect Anglo-American Material Aid

By a Special Correspondent

All is not quiet on the Australian front. After the Dutch East Indies fell into Japanese hands, and the British fleet in the Indian Ocean was virtually wiped out by a Japanese Naval force in its recent attacks on Colombo and Trincomalee, the barrier that had stood between the military might of Japan and Australia ceased to exist. As a result, that British dominion has been dangerously exposed to menace from the north.

Urged by Prime Minister John Curtin, Dr. Herbert Evatt, Australian Minister for External Affairs, visited Ottawa and appealed to Canadian Prime Minister William MacKenzie King for military aid to Australia. We are in no position to surmise what the heads of the two British commonwealths discussed, but according to a subsequent announcement by Premier King, Canada was indisposed to give any assistance to her sister dominion. For MacKenzie King issued a public statement in which he said Canada could not spare any material aid to countries outside the Western Hemisphere.

Arrival of the General

With an apologetic promise: "We shall return to the Philippines," General Douglas MacArthur arrived in panic-stricken Australia amid a rousing ovation from her people who were compelled to seek comfort and hope somewhere outside their own country. Forgetting the narrow escape he made from the ubiquitous Japanese Forces in the Bataan Peninsula, the American general felt as if he were a victorious commander returning home. But the bubble of his elation burst immediately when he faced stark reality.

Although he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Allied land, sea, and air forces in the Western Pacific, with headquarters in Australia, General MacArthur was not allowed to exercise power as supreme commander. For Australian military leaders were reluctant to transfer their authority to the American general. Mr. MacArthur had a serious heartache over his new predicament; he finally got it off his chest through his spokesman, flinging his bitter complaints to the Australian military authorities as well as to the Pacific War Council in Washington.

Baffled by this sentimental friction between General MacArthur and Australian military leaders, Prime Minister Curtin and President Roosevelt made parallel statements concerning the status of General MacArthur. A few days later, it was officially reaffirmed that General MacArthur was the supreme commander of the Allied land, sea, and air forces in the Southwestern Pacific area, including Australia. But competent observers in neutral countries asked: "How could General MacArthur expect to command the Australian forces effectively after Australian military chiefs opposed his leadership for some time?" These observers are saying: "A mere public statement by the Pacific War Council is not sufficient to unify the command of the unwilling forces." General MacArthur will surely have more trouble in Australia than in the Bataan Peninsula from which he fled, leaving his struggling troops behind.

Political Strife Seen

Internally speaking, too, Australia's pot of trouble is boiling. A political strife of a serious nature is seen mounting in Australia as the opening of her Parliament nears. Arthur Fadden, opposition leader and former Prime Minister, warned the Government that the opposition party would offer the maximum resistance to any policy of irresponsible socialization which the ministers of the Curtin Cabinet might seek to introduce.

Breaking a six-month political truce, Mr. Fadden threw this warning at Government leaders from his sick-bed in Queensland where he had been suffering from dengue fever. He continued: "It is quite apparent that a section of the Curtin Government has been indulging in what must be described as a blatant attempt to use the current national emergency to suit their own political ends."

On the other hand, at the Premiers' conference which began in Melbourne on the afternoon of April 22, all the premiers present were vehemently opposed to the Commonwealth Government's scheme to introduce a uniform taxation for all states of Australia. The Premier of South Australia said that the Commonwealth was adopting a stand and deliver attitude, while the Tasmanian Premier declared that the plans were extremely unjust for his state.

Heavy Burden

Prime Minister John Curtin, however, taking a high-handed attitude, told all the opposing premiers that they must realize that the first obligation of all the Australian people was to finance the war. During the last three years, Mr. Curtin continued, Australia had to spend enormous unforeseen expenditures which were caused by the exigency of the international situation. Warning that an extraordinary burden of war finance should be shouldered by various states, Mr. Curtin declared that financial advisers to the Commonwealth Government expected that the war would cost Australia more than a million pounds a day during the next fiscal year.

Pointing to the premiers, Mr. Curtin caustically declared: "You complain that the Commonwealth tax plans would adversely affect the sovereignty of your states. . . I deeply regret that you have expressed the view that you shall not regain your power to tax after this war. I am sorry to state that you gentlemen have not the wartime consciousness toward the Commonwealth Government."

Whatever Mr. Curtin wants to say, the fact remains that all the state premiers of his country are taking a resolute stand directly running counter to the war policy of the Curtin Government.

Effective Administration Doubted

With the opposition party headed by Mr. Fadden and all the state premiers at odds with the Government, how can Mr. Curtin expect to administer Commonwealth affairs effectively to meet wartime requirements?

While Australia's political front is in such a mess, her defense front is in a worse condition inasmuch as it is controlled by an alien general who became suddenly famous for his "heroic desertion" of his troops in the Bataan Peninsula.

Under these adverse circumstances, can the Allies count upon Australia as an asset? The answer, of course, is in the negative. As Australian Government leaders know well, Australia can hardly expect shipments of material aid from the United States as the sea-lanes between the two countries have been virtually cut off. But, on the other hand, Australia is now a definite liabilitiy to the Allies. Unless Australian leaders realize the veritable fact that Australia's place is in the Southwestern Pacific and not in either the Western Hemisphere or Europe, there is no other way left for her but to perish.

Of Things Japanese
NUCLEUS OF FAMILY

By MOCK JOYA

The main building in a Japanese household is called "Omoya" or Mother's building. This is a significant proof that in Japan the mother was originally the center of the family or household, and also that the people of Japan had realized in the remote ancient period that the influence of the mother upon the children and the future welfare of the family was much greater than that of the father.

The Japanese family system was formed with the mother as the center. The mother was the center and the head of the family, and where the mother lived was the center of the house. Thus "Omoya" or Mother's building came to mean the main building or principal section of a household.

In the early days of the Empire, Japan had many Empresses who successfully and wisely ruled the people, and some Empresses had even led armies in battles. Women's field of activity was much wider and more important at first.

With the development of men's activity in the community and particulariy in warfare, the father's authority had much increased. Yet at home and in private matters, the mother ruled absolutely, though the father represented the family legally and socially.

Later, with the development of the warrior class, the mother's room came to be known as "Oku" or back room, while the father's room was called "Omote" or front room. The expression clearly divided the father's and mother's field of activity. That is to say, as regards public affairs the father was the family head, but concerning private matters, the mother was in power.

Great men are born of great mothers. It is quite recently that Western science has discovered that children inherited more intelligence from their mothers than from their fathers. But the people of Japan knew the theory from the very beginning. From the great mothers of Japan have been born our heroes of the past and present.

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MAN-EATING TIGERS RAMPANT IN MALAYA

Crocodiles Haunt Rivers and Sea Bathing Dangerous

The early pioneers of the rubber industry were often beset by raids carried out by man-eating tigers on their estates. The tigers carried off not only their stock of chickens and pigs, bred for home consumption, but also many of the coolies employed on the estates. Tigers turn to man for their food as a last resort when they become too old to hunt for other prey.

The Japanese-operated Federated Malay Rubber Company, which later changed its name to the Malay Rubber Company, had its first rubber estate at Layang-Layang, located in the middle of Johore State. The planters built their dwelling houses on stout wooden piles to counteract the ravages of termites, or white ants. Thus between the floor and the ground there was a surplus space of about 10 feet, which could be utilized as storage-places for the tools employed in plantation work, as kennels for the watchdogs, and even as chicken-coops.

At that time the whole country around was distraught with fear of a large man-eating tiger which had hitherto evaded all efforts to kill it. It was not long before this tiger smelled out the chickens kept by the Japanese planters, and night after night they could hear the tiger roaming about underneath their floor-boards, only a few feet below. Not satisfied with the chickens, the tiger carried off dogs as well. Perhaps on its next visit it would come after the planters themselves! The women, especially, were frantic with fear.

Deep Pit Is Dug

The wooden stairs that led from the ground to the doors of the houses were unfastened at night and drawn in as a preventive measure against the possible entry of the tiger into their homes. But this state of affairs could not continue for ever, and finally the planters determined to kill the tiger.

A pit 20 feet deep was dug underneath a house, and carefully covered over with branches so that it would yield under the tiger's weight. A chicken, for bait, was then tied to the middle of this trap. Then a hole, large enough for a double-barrelled gun to be thrust through it, was bored in the floor-boards immediately above the pit. It was the intention of the men on guard to shoot the animal rendered helpless after it had fallen into the pit.

That night the tiger fell a victim to their scheme, but before a single shot could be fired, it had sprung out and thus escaped. The next day, the planters reshaped the pit, making it broad at the bottom and narrow toward the top. Not satisfied with this, a few of the more enterprising members followed the spoor of the tiger, ascertained the exact spot where it left and entered the jungle, and fixed up a trip-trigger gun in the undergrowth. That is, a thin length of wire was stretched across the supposed path of the tiger, one end of it being fixed firmly to a stout bush, and the other tied to both triggers of a double-barrelled gun, which was so placed that the moment the wire was touched both barrels would discharge their deadly contents into the tiger's body.

Forgets Its Caution

The tiger is a most careful beast when it is stalking its prey, but after it has made its capture it is apt to forget the need for caution, and thus the planters were confident that this trip-trigger gun would fulfil its purpose. That night the tiger seemed to have changed its district of operation, for the next day the planters heard from their coolies that a village about 10 miles away had been raided the night before, and that a native had been carried away. The great cat seemed to be making a circuit of the country, for the next day another report of a similar nature came in from another village in quite a different part of the country.

But on the following night when it reappeared in the Japanese rubber estate, it seemed to have grown more cautious, for it ignored the baited pit, as it prowled round the house, its vicious snarls sending cold shivers up the spines of the waiting planters in the house. This time the tiger burst open the door of the pig-sty, and on seizing the largest pig it could find, stalked calmly away.

Presently two loud detonations, following each other so quickly that they sounded as one, rent the stillness of the night. "The trip-gun! It has worked!" exclaimed one of the men. "Let us go!" "Wait," said another, more cautious, "if it has worked the tiger is dead, and it will remain where it is. It is better to wait for the day to break, for we can see better when it is light."

When the sun rose they set out, accompanied by a horde of coolies, who were armed with sticks and empty kerosene tins, which they beat with the sticks like drums until the infernal din was sufficient to wake up the dead. They found the pig first, its haunch missing, and a little further on they saw the tiger lying on its side, one paw stretched out with claws extended, its eyes wide open.

The terror of the jungle was dead.

Sea Bathing Dangerous

The crocodiles of Malaya haunt not only the rivers but also the shallow waters of the sea near the mouths of rivers. Sometimes they cruise for quite a considerable distance along the coast, making sea bathing dangerous. That is the reason why all bathing resorts have "pagars," which are fenced enclosures projecting for about 80 or 90 yards into the sea from the shore. The usual width is about 50 yards, and all swimmers have to disport themselves within the enclosure if they value

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INDIA
An Impartial Study

By Will Durant

Today, more than ever before, the attention of the world is being focused on India where the struggle against British imperialism is rapidly coming to a head. The noted American scholar and philosopher, Will Durant, has written what is probably the most impartial work on the subject. Excerpts from this enlightening book will be reproduced in these columns.—Editor.

Gandhi's Social Philosophy

It is evident that the profane secularization which industry has brought to the West has not yet affected India; the typical Hindu still thinks in terms of God, while the typical white man thinks in terms of earthly profit and loss. Gandhi would not subscribe to the contention of the Chinese philosopher, Hu Shih, that it is the West which is idealistic, and the East which is materialistic; that saving people from poverty is as spiritual a business as the intellectual love of God. (This phrase of Spinoza's is almost a summary of Hindu philosophy).

Gandhi is not prepared, like Hu Shih, to welcome industrialization, factories, railroads, armies as a necessary price for Oriental liberation from the West. On the contary he abhors Western civilization; he wishes to be free not only from England, but from that whole life of feverish industry; in office and factory, which England was the first to invent. He wonders what is the purpose and fruit of this Western bustle and "overproduction," this strange mechanism for concentrating wealth, in which the rapid production of goods leads to universal depression and poverty; this marvelous system whereby the progress of invention results in great fortunes among a few, and increasing unemployment among the rest.

Leisure Destroyed

He believes that under this mode of life leisure is destroyed, rivalry takes merely material forms of possession, expenditure and display, and happiness is in the end no greater than before all the inventions and all the wealth. He writes:

"The people of Europe today live in better built houses than they did a hundred years ago. Formerly they wore skins, and used, as their weapons, spears. Now they wear long trousers, . . . and instead of spears they carry with them revolvers containing five at more chambers . . . Formerly, when people wanted to fight with one another, they measured between them their bodily strength; now it is possible to take away thousands of lives by one man working behind a gun from a hill."

This is in our day an old point, but to Gandhi it is a living horror. He has seen the worst forms of imperialistic exploitation in South Africa and India, and he has known at first hand the filth and terror of war. For the pursuit of material goods for their own sake inevitably ends in war; our neighbor has something which would suit us well—diamond mines in Africa, coal and iron mines in Europe, oil-wells in Mesopotamia, markets and soil in Asia and South America for our surplus of goods and men; sooner or later we take what we can, and hold what we take; presently it is ours by sacred tradition, and any attempt to put an end to the theft is a violation of the peace of the world.

'What Have We Done?'

What nobility can there be in a civilization that moves so naturally to murder and suicide, to diplomatic lies and invented atrocities, to universal conscription and a prostituted press, to gigantic national debts, and another war as soon as a new generation of simpletons grows up to believe new lies, not remembering the old? Such a civilization cannot survive; it will die in the next war, which will be between Europe and America. The time will come when the West will ask itself, amid the ruins, "What have we done?"

In these errors of life-perspective the fundamental, which vitiates Western thought throughout, is, to Gandhi, a false conception of education. Every year the West flings upon life a million or more graduates trained in cultural studies or business methods, but utterly untrained in morality and honor. Even if they are taught the Ten Commandments in school, they see with their eyes, out of school, how well one may get along, materially, without these Verbotens; soon they are added to the welter of unscrupulous individuals seeking wealth; and when they take public office they make official life a running sore of negligence and corruption.

Gandhi's own school, the Satyagrashram, aims on the contrary at character first and intellect afterward; Ashram is a place of discipline, Satya graha is the grasping of truth. The teachers vow themselves to absolute veracity, to hurt no living thing, to refrain from sensual desire, to live frugally, to use no manufactured goods from abroad, to take for themselves nothing which they might do without; and the pupils are expected to learn from their example. The course for all includes manual training, spinning, agriculture, and the sharing of every menial task.

For 10 years the students are taught and fed without charge; then they take the vows of the teacher, or go free into life as the seed-carriers of a higher civilization, pledged only to Ahimsa—non-violence to life. Gandhi trusts that such Ashrams will arise everywhere in India, rescuing Hindu youth from the de-Hinduizing processes of the Government schools, and creating a people with those qualities of character out of which all good things must come, and without which India may be clever and "enlightened," but never again great.

(To Be Concluded)